Lifestyle
Get tangled up (in music) at Tanglewood B8

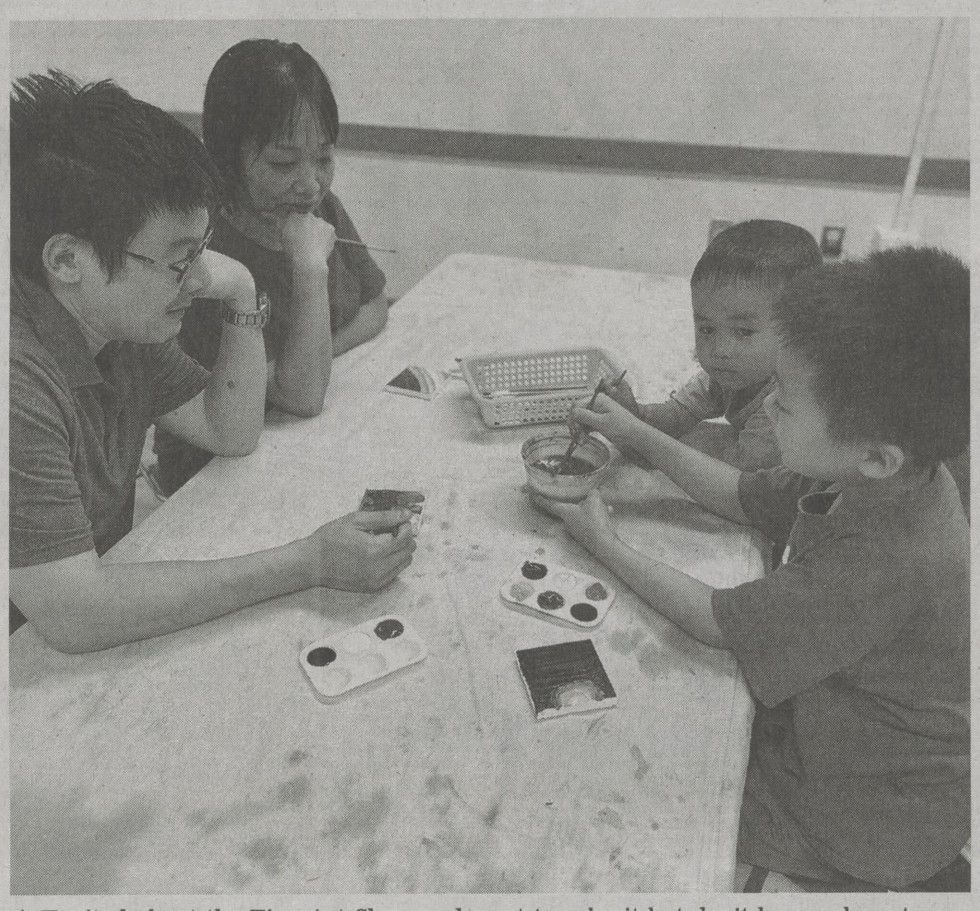
Sports
Fall sports underway at Wilmington High School B6

$2.00

$$$

Wilmington Library News:

Family Craft Night on Wednesday, Sept. 10 featuring Tiny Art



▲ Excited about the Tiny Art Show and want to submit but don't know where to start? Join us for a Family Craft Night on Sept. 10 at 6 p.m.

(Courtesy photo)

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, September 9, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10, 2 p.m.

Thursday, September 11, 2 p.m.

Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Needleworkers at Night

Monday, September 8, 6 - 8 p.m.

These nighttime sessions are perfect for anyone who does any kind of needle craft but can't make it to Needleworkers during the day! Drop-in.

Streaming Services and Other Alternatives to Cable

Monday, September 8, 7 - 8 p.m.

Come join Technology Librarian Brad as he presents alternatives to cable, such as Netflix, Sling TV and the library. While not all free, the alternatives will save you quite a bit of money every month.

Cookin' the Books

Tuesday, September 9, 12 - 1 p.m.

If you love to cook and enjoy talking about food and sharing recipes, then this group is for you! Grab a copy of the cookbook, register on the library's event calendar, and record your recipe. Bring your dish to the meeting and enjoy sampling everyone's dishes! Featured Cookbook: Pass the Plate by Caroline Gelen.

Fun & Function of iPhone

Thursday, September 11, 2:30 p.m.

Whether you're new to the iPhone or looking to unlock its hidden potential, this session will cover essential tips, tricks, and features to make your device both practical and enjoyable.

Cider & Cozy Crafts

Thursday, September 11, 6 - 8 p.m.

Come by the first floor of the library to unwind! We will have a Self-Serve Apple Cider Bar, including fun mix-ins. Try some cozy crafts like origami, rock painting, or sketching from fall-themed still lifes. Or, break out one of the library's puzzles or board games.

Needleworkers

Friday, September 12, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy conversation and camaraderie. Drop-in.

Youth Programs

Bilingual Story Hour

Monday, September 8, 10 a.m.

Practice using your home language or learn a new language with the Community Teamwork Family Resource Network! Ages 0-6.

Preschool Storytime

Tuesday, September 9, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Preschool Storytime! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 3-6

Teen Leadership Council

Tuesday, September 9, 6 p.m.

Are you interested in advocating for what you want at WML? Have you volunteered before, but want to commit to more? Join our Teen Leadership Council! Grades 7-12

Time for Twos

Wednesday, September 10, 10 a.m.

Time for Twos includes books, rhymes, music and movement for children aged 2! Age 2

Family Craft Night: Tiny Art

Wednesday, September 10, 6 p.m.

Excited about the Tiny Art Show and want to submit but don't know where to start? Come to this all ages event where you can paint or draw your 3x3x3 art. All Ages

Baby Time

Thursday, September 11, 10 a.m.

Join us at our Baby Time! This program includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Ages 0-23 months

Crafternoon

Thursday, September 11, 3:45 p.m.

Make a fun craft with us during Crafternoon! This month's craft will be decoupaged shells! Grades 4-8

Outdoor Drop-In

Read to Stormy

Thursday, September 11, 4 - 5:30 p.m. (15-minute sessions)

Come practice your reading skills with Therapy Dog, Stormy! In this special session, there are no registrations! Drop-in anytime between 4 - 5:30 p.m. for a first-come, first-served time slot outside in the Peggy Kane Reading Garden. Grades K-6

Music with Dara

Friday, September 12, 10 a.m.

With keyboard, felt board, and finger puppets, Dara weaves songs (old and new favorites) and creative movement for a fun-filled musical program! Ages 2-5, siblings welcome

Additional Information

Registration still open!

Join author Sy Montgomery on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) as she discusses her journey as an author. There will be a cash bar, book sales & an autograph signing! Sy Montgomery is best known for her books The Good, Good Pig and The Soul of an Octopus. Registration is now open! This is a free event, open to ages 9+, and is located at the Wilmington Senior Center.

Join us for Welcome to Wilmington!

Please drop in on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Wilmington Memorial Library for our annual reception for new residents. Meet representatives from town government, schools and more. Learn about services, programs and volunteer opportunities, and pick up your Welcome Bag! RSVPs encouraged at *wilmlibrary.org*.

Check Out Our Library of Things

Did you know Wilmington Memorial Library circulates more than just books? Check out our Adult, Teen and Youth Library of Things for fun and useful items to take home. Items include: a karaoke machine, laminator, telescope, crochet kit, projector and much more! See what's available at *https://wilmlibrary.org/lot/*.

Book Store Next Door

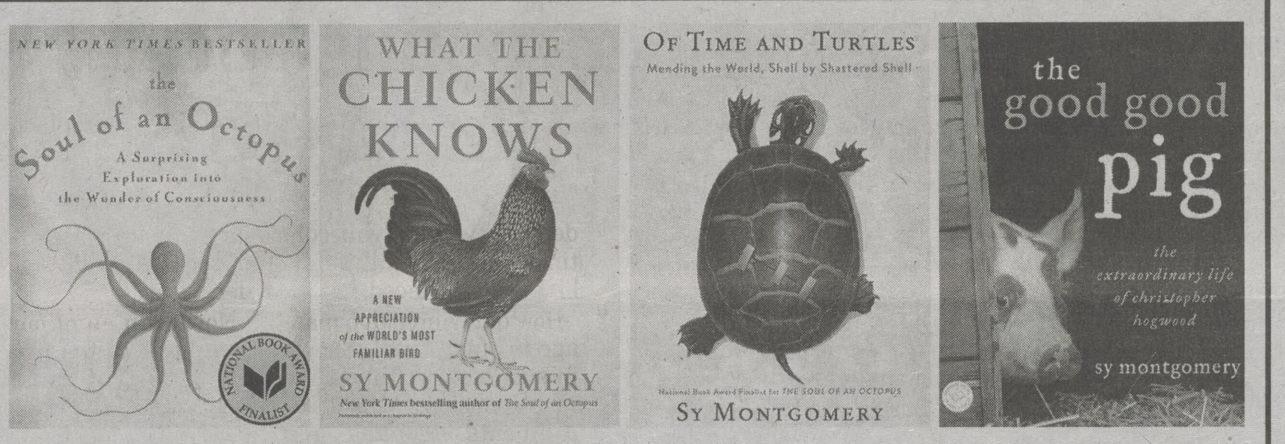
Regular hours are back at The Book Store Next Door! The bookstore is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting *www.wilmlibrary.org/services/mp*.

WML In-Person & Virtual Programming

Registration is required for most in-person programs and is required for all virtual programs, as you will need to register in order to receive the Zoom link. You can register on our website at *www.wilmlibrary.org* or by calling (978) 658-2967.


NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
the Soul of an Octopus
A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness
NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST
WHAT THE CHICKEN KNOWS
A NEW APPRECIATION of the WORLD'S MOST FAMILIAR BIRD
SY MONTGOMERY
New York Times bestselling author of The Soul of an Octopus
OF TIME AND TURTLES
Mending the World, Shell by Shattered Shell
SY MONTGOMERY
the good good pig
the extraordinary life of christopher hogwood
sy montgomery

Author Sy Montgomery comes to WML on Sept. 25

WILMINGTON — Wilmington Memorial Library announces next author in Behind the Books series Behind the Books: Sy Montgomery. Thursday, Sept. 25 (7:30 p.m.) at the Wilmington Senior Center. (130 Main St., Wilmington). Free. Registration required. Limited seating: please register on the library's online calendar or call 978-658-2967.

This event begins at 7:30 p.m. Book sales and cash bar will be available starting at 6:30 p.m.

The Behind the Books series hosts well-known regional and national authors. The library is pleased to announce the next author for this series will be Sy Montgomery.

Montgomery is the best-selling author of 40 nonfiction books for adults, teens, and children. She writes about animals and the humans who care for them.

One of her most popular books is "The Soul of An Octopus." For her recent bestseller "Of Time and Turtles," she befriended a 42-pound wild snapping turtle named Fire Chief, who shows his extraordinary trust by allowing her to feed him by hand.

Montgomery's books have garnered many awards including:

- 2015 Finalist for the National Book Awards
- 2009 New England Independent Booksellers Association Nonfiction Award
- 2010 Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award

She is a 1979 graduate of Syracuse University and has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from three universities. *The New York Times* describes her as "equal parts poet and scientist" and the *Boston Globe* dubbed her "part Indiana Jones and part Emily Dickinson."

On Sept. 25, Montgomery will read from and discuss her books.

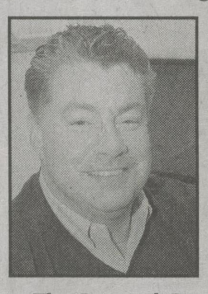
Behind the Books is made possible by generous contributions from the Friends of the Wilmington Memorial Library and a state aid grant administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

For more information, contact Nathalie Harty | *nharty@wilmlibrary.org* | 978-954-3798)

Advertisement

It's Your Money

by Todd Brisbois



MISLEADING CLAIMS ABOUT NON-EXISTENT "SELF-EMPLOYMENT TAX CREDIT"

The Internal Revenue Service issued a consumer alert following bad advice circulating on social media about a non-existent "Self-Employment Tax Credit" that's misleading taxpayers into filing false claims.

Promoters and social media are marketing something they describe as the "Self-Employment Tax Credit" as a way for self-employed people and gig workers to get big payments for the COVID-19 pandemic period. Similar to misleading marketing around the Employee Retention Credit, there is inaccurate information suggesting many people qualify for the tax credit and payments of up to $32,000 when they actually do not.

In reality, the underlying credit being referred to in social media isn't called the "Self-Employment Tax Credit," it's a much more limited and technical credit called Credits for Sick Leave and Family Leave. Many people simply do not qualify for this credit, and the IRS is closely reviewing claims coming in under this provision so people filing claims do so at their own risk.

This is another misleading social media claim that's fooling well-meaning taxpayers into thinking they're due a big payday. People shouldn't be misled by outlandish claims they see on social media. Before paying someone to file these claims, taxpayers should consult with a trusted tax professional to see if they meet the very limited eligibility scenarios.

The IRS is seeing some similarities in the marketing around this "Self-Employment Tax Credit" to aggressive promotion of the Employee Retention Credit. Both are technical credits that have been mischaracterized by some as a way for average taxpayers to get a big government payment. In reality, these are very limited credits that have a variety of complex requirements before people can qualify.

Presented as a service to the community by

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Best wishes, Miss Victoria... and thank you!

Since late 2023, the Wilmington Public Library "has been lucky to have Miss Victoria on our team as Assistant Youth Services Librarian." Now she's off on a brand-new adventure as a high school librarian, "and while we're so excited for her, we'll miss her big time at WML!" From planning awesome kids' programs and designing colorful bulletin boards to leading storytimes and everything in between, Victoria has filled Youth Services with creativity, energy, and heart. Stop by to wish her good luck before she heads off — her last day is Thursday, Sept. 4.

(Courtesy photos)

(Courtesy photo)

24th annual Walk of Hope to benefit ALS research

WAKEFIELD — Walkers are preparing for the 24th annual Walk of Hope for ALS, a 3.5-mile walk around Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield to benefit The Angel Fund for ALS Research, on Saturday, Sept. 6.

The walk begins with registration at 9 a.m. and the walk stepping off at 11 a.m. The release of doves in honor of those living with ALS and those who have lost their courageous to the disease will be held prior to the start of the walk.

The Angel Fund for ALS Research is a nonprofit charity dedicated to supporting the ALS research of Dr. Robert Brown, Jr. and his team at UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester. ALS, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, is a progressive, always fatal neuromuscular disease which leads to muscle weakness and as it progresses, results in total paralysis and the inability to speak and swallow while the mind and senses remain intact.

Walkers of all abilities are encouraged to participate as individuals or as a team. To register as a walker or to register a team, log-on to The Angel Fund website at *www.theangelfund.org* or call the organization at 781-245-7070.

In addition to the walk around Lake Quannapowitt, the event includes activities and refreshments for all registered walkers. Kings Bowl of Lynnfield, an annual supporter of the walk, will again provide refreshments for registered walkers, as will Shaws of Wakefield.

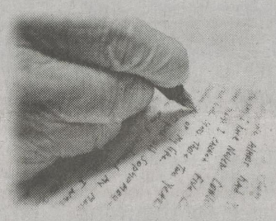
The Angel Fund will also honor those who have ALS and those who have lost their battle with the disease with the Faces of ALS®.

Donations to the Angel Fund for ALS Research can also be made online, or can be sent to The Angel Fund, 649 Main Street, Wakefield, MA 01880. All donations should be made payable to The Angel Fund for ALS Research.

Walkers are encouraged to create their own webpage to raise money online. Registered walkers can create their page at *https://theangelfund.org*.

Information about the walk can be obtained on the website, *https://theangelfund.org/project/walk-of-hope/*, or by calling 781-245-7070.

Looking at the upcoming special election and special town meeting in Wilmington through a historical lens



Letter to the editor

To the editor,

As the people of Wilmington consider how best to understand the immediate need of funding the repair or replacement of its Wildwood School, we should consider that 7 schools were built quickly over a 15 year time span covering Wilmington's Baby Boom and suburban growth.

They have been in continuous heavy use, and together are approaching their end of useful life. One of those schools, Glen Road Elementary (1960), was converted to our present Town Hall after it was evacuated due to a 1979 fire. After 65 years and a refurbishment, that building is finally being retired as Wilmington's first purpose-built Town Hall is finishing construction over the coming year.

The Wildwood (1955) was closed to students in February 2022 due to a fuel leak and essential systems deemed to be at end-of-life after 67 years of operations. While we hope for graceful degradation of the North Intermediate (1962, 63 years old), and Woburn Street (1964, 61 years old) schools, we would be in a serious predicament if either of them also experienced catastrophic failure in the next 3 years before a replacement can be built.

Just as a 20 year old car loses its appeal due to magnitude and frequency of repairs, lack of modern features, degraded visual appeal and low comfort, each of our 60+ year old buildings are at the end of their design life and suffer from these end-of-life deficiencies and will continue to age until refurbished or replaced.

How did Wilmington manage to build 7 new schools in such a short time span in response to school enrollments doubling and tripling in the two decades after 1950? Town Manager Joseph F Courtney suggested in 1957 that we curb municipal baseline costs by using standard school plans to build as cheaply as possible and to develop new sources of revenue.

Revenue was bolstered by encouraging rapid building of new subdivisions and attempting to lure higher income office workers to live in Wilmington (a sort of Ponzi-like scheme which was both the problem and the solution).

The second major revenue stream was developing Wilmington's industrial base. The Town Manager pushed to develop industrial parks at Ballardvale and Industrial Way to increase the tax base, and welcomed the arrival of large firms like AVCO to offset the costs to residents.

Now, with all of our PK-5 children in the five surviving end-of-life buildings, and one recently evacuated due to failure, we need to fund their complete refurbishment or replacement. If we wanted to use the boom-time approach, we would look for ways to increase revenue.

We could increase revenue through expanding our base population through building more residential units — but May's Town Meeting indicated low tolerance for this approach. We could redistribute the tax levy by adjusting property valuations through replacing all the small older homes with new oversized colonials, but that would worsen the affordability crisis.

Our industrial parks are built out, but could we stimulate their utilization better? The schemes that brought us fast and cheap schools 60+ years ago no longer seem viable, because our town has fully grown from an agricultural town to a residential suburb with some industry. Instead, our school building committee has spent 5 years navigating the MSBA process and have secured $62M of state money to match our own municipal funds.

Through meticulous planning and economizing, the proposal meets the needs of our children and includes features from hundreds of surveys. It is now our turn to unite together as our parents and grandparents did to fund the GOOD schools of Wilmington through the upcoming ballot and Special Town Meeting.

Joseph Jackson
A historically-minded citizen

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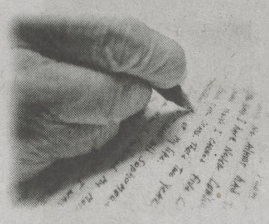
OPINION



Letters to the editor

Vote yes at special Town Meeting and town election

Dear editor and Wilmington community,

Our town is approaching a pivotal vote that marks the culmination of more than four years of dedicated work and strategic planning. Our current elementary schools are outdated and inadequate for modern educational needs, making this project a significant opportunity to address three schools simultaneously. The work on this new school project has been ongoing, involving numerous town departments and volunteer committees, and 60+ public meetings and forums.

On Sept. 13 and 16, I encourage you to vote yes to move this project forward; failure to do so will lead to higher costs and lengthy delays. If we do not take advantage of this opportunity, we will be paying a lot more to renovate 60-year-old schools or build new schools using town money, likely without MSBA funding.

If either vote fails, and we want to utilize MSBA funding, we will have to re-enter the highly-selective MSBA pool again, hope to get chosen, and regardless of what the project is, it could be delayed 5-10+ years, and the West side schools even longer — these buildings cannot afford this delay.

It is important to note that renovating via the MSBA would be for one school only, not multiple schools. If we vote no and instead choose to repair/renovate some or all of the schools, they would need extensive work to bring them up to today's needs. Additionally, without MSBA funding, the majority or all of the cost would fall on the town's taxpayers, which would match or exceed the town's share for this proposed project.

We also need to consider the logistics of repairs and renovations; each school would have a short window to be renovated during the summer months when school is not in session. They would need to be done in phases over multiple summers for each school. This arrangement would only further delay addressing our schools and would be highly disruptive to our children, teachers and staff.

The town manager has proposed a fiscally responsible 30-year plan that includes a future PreK-5 elementary school on the West side of town without increasing taxes. Voting yes at Special Town Meeting and at the polls addresses the North side schools now and sets the stage for addressing the West side schools within the next decade.

We cannot continue to kick this project down the road; our community has waited long enough for this opportunity, and we have the most fiscally sound plan in place.

Please attend the Special Town Meeting at Wilmington High School on Sept. 13 at 9 a.m. and vote YES for this project (we need a two-thirds majority), and also vote YES at your polling location on Tuesday, Sept. 16. Early voting is also available from Sept. 2 to 12. Remember — both votes need to pass to make this project a reality!

Let's ensure that Wilmington's educational facilities are supportive of our children and the future of Wilmington. A few hours of your time will make a positive difference for generations to come. The time is now.

Respectfully submitted,
Lilia Maselli
Resident & member
of the Wilmington
Select Board

Governor Healey proclaims September as 'Emergency Preparedness Month'

FRAMINGHAM — Governor Maura Healey has declared September 2025 as Emergency Preparedness Month to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and to encourage planning for disasters and other types of emergencies.

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), and other state, local, and nonprofit agencies will promote preparedness through various public outreach efforts throughout the month. These efforts are part of a month-long national campaign themed "Preparedness Starts at Home."

"Emergencies come in many forms, from severe flooding to structure fires and wildfires, which is why it is essential to be prepared," said Governor Maura Healey. "Last fall, Massachusetts experienced a historic wildland fire season, which burned more than 4,500 acres in communities like Great Barrington, Middleton, and many in between. This only emphasizes how essential readiness is for everyone who lives in, works in, or visits Massachusetts. Being prepared for the unexpected emergency starts at home with each of us."

"Massachusetts has diligent professionals working every day to keep us safe, but preparedness really does start at home," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "By taking a few minutes to develop an emergency family plan or put together an emergency kit, you're taking steps that will make a real difference if a disaster strikes."

"During Emergency Preparedness Month, it's not only the ideal time to take steps to ensure you are as ready as you can be for a potential disaster, but also an important time to recognize everyone in public safety who is working year-round to ensure the people of the Commonwealth are prepared for hazards and threats," said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. "Thank you for your service in keeping us safe each and every day."

"Getting prepared for an emergency doesn't have to be an expensive or time-consuming process," said MEMA Director Dawn Brantley, "Creating an emergency plan for your family, including your pets, takes just a few minutes, and you may already have many of the items to include in your emergency kit around your house. Emergency Preparedness Month is the perfect time to get started."

"Emergency preparedness is public health in action," said Robbie Goldstein, MD, PhD, Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health. "It starts at home and keeps our communities healthy as it expands through our neighborhoods and across our Commonwealth. The true power of preparedness comes when all these pieces work together — not just to address a crisis, but to prevent it from ever happening."

Throughout September, MEMA will share information on its social media accounts about emergency preparedness topics, including emergency planning, building an emergency kit, preparing for disasters, youth preparedness, ways to get involved in community preparedness, and more. Keep an eye out for MEMA's Local Coordinators and outreach staff at community preparedness events across Massachusetts during September. The Women in Emergency Management Group, led by MEMA and DPH, will host a day-long event in recognition of Preparedness Month to engage women working across multiple sectors in the field of emergency management.

Visit *Mass.gov/ready* to find emergency preparedness tips available in several different languages, safety tips for specific threats and hazards, preparedness resources from the MEMA, DPH, and the Massachusetts Office on Disability, and other information.

Vote no on the 'Wilmington mega school'

Dear residents,

The time is nearly here that you are being asked to vote in the largest override of proposition two-and-a-half the Town of Wilmington has ever seen. You read this right; you are being asked by a very small group of people to raise YOUR OWN property taxes by the most ever in history. That's a very significant thought, really.

Let's face it, do you enjoy paying your property taxes each year? I'm not sure many people will answer this question in the positive. While contemplating the answer to this question, keep in mind, this is not only a question of the amount this project will raise your taxes, but also the amount the levy will raise naturally.

Remember the town manager saying the debt for the senior center would be funded out of the levy? In short, that means your natural increase could actually be closer to 7.5 to 8% (5.8% +2.5%). This equates to an almost $653 dollar increase to your property tax bill IF you vote for this proposed Wildwood School building project.

We will see this coming in November when our homes get hit with their 3-year reassessment as well, so ultimately no one can say what your total will be because your home's value has risen.

During this fight I have posted every document proving that there was almost unlimited deception and sketchy tactics employed by the side selling this project like a used Ford Pinto. (See: *www.facebook.com/groups/votenowilmingtonmegaschool*). This fight involves large out-of-town donors trying to convince you into raising your own taxes for their benefit. The time has come when the fight moves from us to you the voter.

In order to defeat this attack on our seniors and lower income residents, we need you to SHOW UP at the special town meeting to VOTE NO on this most extravagant proposal. If you're concerned about showing up at town meeting to vote NO in front of your peers, I assure you, you will not be alone. I have personally talked to hundreds of residents, elderly, middle-age and otherwise, that do not support this project. They understand and just about everyone agrees that a NO vote does not mean you're anti-education or anti-school.

A no vote sends this back with the message to our elected and appointed officials that decided this "most expensive option" was not the one that should move forward and to DO BETTER. It's worth repeating, this was THE MOST EXPENSIVE OPTION OF THE 18 considered. Compile this with the debt we will be asked to accrue with the much needed fire sub station as well as our 100 to 200 million dollar share in the Shawsheen Tech rebuild.

In the end, we NEED YOU to SHOW UP and VOTE NO on this project on Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 a.m. at Wilmington High School.

Prior to the vote, I encourage you to look at the VOTE NO WILMINGTON MEGA SCHOOL on Facebook and view the documents I have provided and decide for yourself if this is a proposal worth forcing even one resident out of town for.

Thank you
Rob Fasulo

Local residents named to Dean's List at WNE Univ.

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 790 students who have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2025 semester.

WILMINGTON

- **Thomas Dalton**
- **Jonathan Dalton**
- **Mia Demarco**

TEWKSBURY

- **Connor Broderick**

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates.

More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries.

Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Cold War, hot book on September Book Stew

Host Eileen MacDougall welcomes Reading author and podcaster Jane Healey, for a discussion of her fifth historical fiction novel, "The Women of Arlington Hall," in the September Book Stew episode.

While reading an issue of Smithsonian Magazine, Jane discovered an article about the top-secret Venona Project, created to decipher coded messages about the atomic bomb being shared between spies in the US and the Soviet Union, before, during, and after WWII.

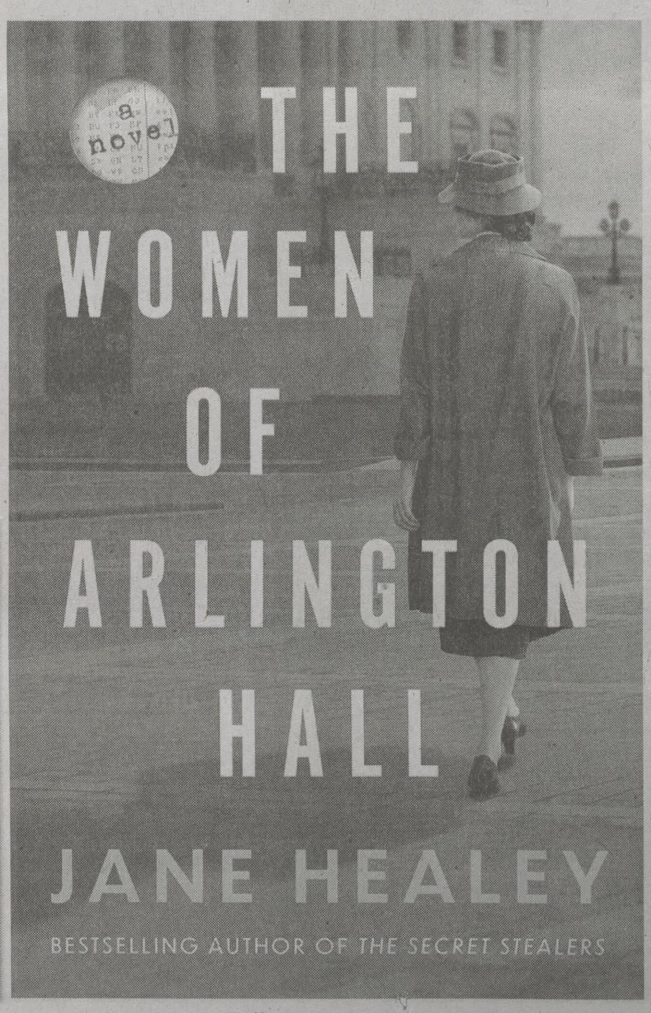
Based in Washington DC, the team of cryptanalysts were primarily women, though no reason was ever given for their preference in the roles, which involved complicated pattern recognition and problem-solving skills. The work was so highly classified that even President Harry Truman did not know of its existence.

Jane Healey is also the host of Historical Happy Hour, a podcast featuring such renowned authors as Kristin Hannah, Rhys Bowen and Fiona Davis.

Check out this new Book Stew episode on WCTV on Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturdays at noon. Or copy the links below into your browser and enjoy!

YouTube video: *https://tinyurl.com/book-stew141-yt*

Soundcloud podcast: *https://tinyurl.com/book-stew141-sc*



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Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

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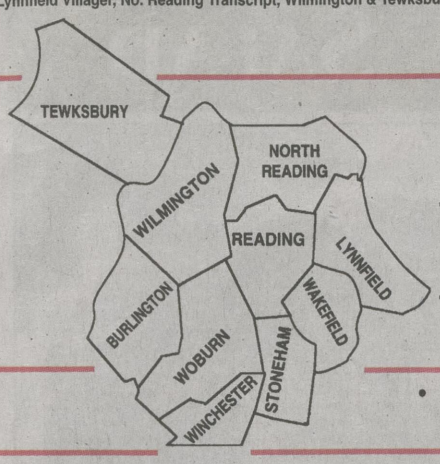
Movie Review: 'The Thursday Murder Club' Page B2

Recipe: Potato Salad Page B2

Real Estate Transfers Page B3

MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times – Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield), Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 4, 2025 B1



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WOBURN ESTABLISHES PROCESS TO RESTORE 'GRANDFATHER' PROTECTIONS TO ABANDONED HOMES

(Courtesy Photo)

43-45 CHURCH ST. BY HAMMOND SQUARE IN WOBURN

By PATRICK BLAIS

Hoping the change will encourage other landlords to restore abandoned properties, Woburn's City Council recently adopted legislation that would enable homeowners to restore neglected houses that have lost their "grandfathered" zoning protections.

During a meeting in Woburn City Hall last month, council members voted unanimously in favor of adopting a zoning amendment that will create a process by which developers can re-establish a lost "pre-existing, non-conforming" zoning status to vacant single and two-family houses that could not otherwise be renovated and again occupied by local residents.

Specifically, those who own single and two-family homes within any residential zoning district within the city can now petition the City Council for a special permit that would restore that grandfather status.

Though initially skeptical of the request, which came from a Watertown contractor who found himself in legal limbo after acquiring a partially-rehabbed two-family house near Woburn Center, the City Council slowly came to support the legislation as a way to restore blighted houses.

"[Homeowners] would be able to come to the City Council to ask for a little grace in allowing [them] to go back to the two-family [use] and build something that would correct a blight in the neighborhood," explained Ward 4 Councilor Joseph Demers of the proposed special permit process. "I think we all have several properties in our wards that could benefit from this."

"I'm all for this," Ward 6 Councilor Lou DiMambro also said of the zoning amendment during committee meetings on the proposal in August. "I think in today's market and economy, houses and homes are in demand. It breaks my heart to see houses in Woburn that have been neglected and abandoned. They become a nuisance and a burden on the city..I'd like to see them brought back to life."

Abandoned uses

According to local attorneys Ryan Douglass and Joseph Tarby, who authored the zoning amendment on behalf of Watertown contractor Clesio Batista Da Silva, their client last year acquired a 125-year-old house at 43-45 Church St. and had intended to restore the Hammond Square area dwelling for use as a two-family home.

However, after approaching Woburn Building Commissioner Thomas Quinn for the needed permits, the Church Street landlord was told that the pre-existing, non-conforming two-family status had been abandoned after a previous landlord began rehabbing the house roughly four years earlier but never finished the project.

Ironically, Da Silva was the contractor hired to do much of that restoration work but had walked off the job after the previous owner allegedly failed to pay some $350,000 in outstanding work invoices. The Saugus developer, in order to settle that payment dispute, then agreed several years later to convey the house to Da Silva, who planned to finish up the job he started back in 2020.

Instead, he found himself as the owner of a dilapidated old three-family house which sat on an undersized parcel of land where no type of residential building could be constructed under modern day zoning regulations.

"My client, Mr. Da Silva, was actually one of the contractors working on the project that was never competed in 2020. So when things fell apart, he was left holding the bag, so to speak," Douglass explained during an initial Planning Board hearing on the matter back in May.

"He basically came up with a deal with [the previous owner] that said, "if you convey me the property, we can call it a wash.' And that's exactly what happened," he continued. "Mr. Da Silva, assuming the property still had its non-conforming status, then attempted to resume this renovation work."

Since Woburn's roots date back to the Colonial era, there are a multitude of homes and businesses across the city that were erected before the community first adopted zoning ordinances. In circumstances where those since enacted zoning

• WOBURN TO B2

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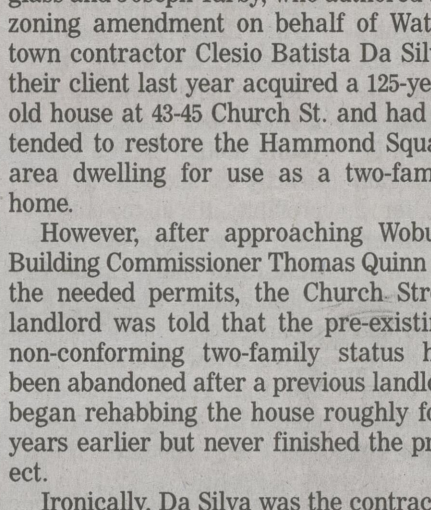

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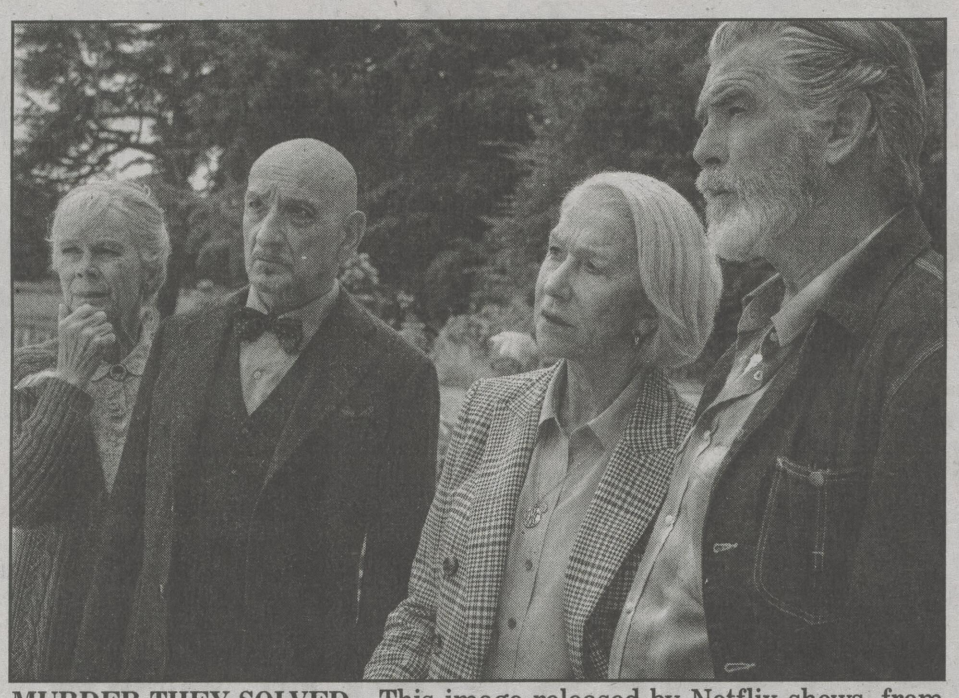


MURDER THEY SOLVED - This image released by Netflix shows, from left, Celia Imrie, Ben Kingsley, Helen Mirren, and Pierce Brosnan in a scene from "The Thursday Murder Club." (Netflix via AP)

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Helen Mirren channels Angela Lansbury in 'Thursday Murder Club'

By JOCELYN NOVECK
AP National Writer

First of all, is this really what retirement looks like?

If so, perhaps we should all sign up, no matter our age. In "The Thursday Murder Club," an amiable, cozy, pleasantly entertaining adaptation of Richard Osman's mystery novel, the lucky club members live in a retirement home that resembles Downton Abbey.

The food at this dreamy manor house nestled in the English countryside is scrumptious, with a choice of wines at lunch. The apartments are huge, the antiques tasteful, the archery and life-drawing classes top-notch. And the emotional support animals are llamas. Yes, llamas.

This is the setting, quaintly called Coopers Chase, in which four retirees, led by Helen Mirren in her no-nonsense plaid blazers, depart from yoga and Sudoku each week to consider cold cases. Old folks solving cases — and outthinking police — is nothing new in our popular culture. Let's recall "Murder, She Wrote," in which Angela Lansbury's Jessica Fletcher solved cases in tiny Cabot Cove, Maine — where close to 300 murders somehow occurred during the show's 12-year run.

The crime-busting seniors in "The Thursday Murder Club," directed by Chris Columbus, are nowhere near that fortunate in terms of body count. But they approach their weekly meetings with gusto. Mirren's Elizabeth has skills from a career in "international affairs" (smells like espionage). Pierce Brosnan's Ron is former trade unionist, and Ben Kingsley's Ibrahim a former psychiatrist. As we begin, the trio is considering a case from the '70s in which a woman fell out a window under mysterious circumstances.

But they need medical expertise, and thus they recruit new resident Joyce (Celia Imrie), an expert baker and former trauma nurse. We meet her as she's showing off the grounds to her haughty daughter, who manages a hedge fund and can't eat Mom's cakes because she's perimenopausal. "Everybody's doing llamas these days, Mum," she says, unimpressed with the surroundings.

But Joyce is thrilled to join the club, and even more thrilled when, one morning, news comes that an actual murder has occurred — a co-owner of Coopers Chase, actually. "Now we've got a real case to solve!" she gushes, with "Disco Inferno" suddenly playing on the soundtrack (that's a little much), as she pulls Ron from aqua aerobics for a meeting. "Isn't it wonderful!"

But no, it isn't all wonderful — the deceased had promised to protect the retirees from the plans of another co-owner to demolish the home and make an event space. The shady Ian Ventham (David Tennant) also intends to uproot the cemetery. Ron organizes a noisy protest. And then, yet another murder happens.

Naomi Ackie is appealing as a police officer who aches for exciting work, and Daniel Mays very funny as her clueless boss. As for the plot - well, the rather dry storyline is not what brings pleasure here.

No, that pleasure is derived from seeing these veterans strut their stuff, foremost among them Mirren. (Kingsley, alas, gets almost no good lines). Her most delicious moment is a direct nod to her Oscar-winning role as a different Elizabeth. Heading out on an incognito mission with Joyce, she dons a silk headscarf, a comfy cardigan, a tartan skirt and a walking stick. "You look like the Queen!" notes her husband. "Do I?" she asks, cheekily.

But moments later, on the bus with Joyce, Elizabeth has a scene that rings false. Reading a text message, she asks her friend: "What does WTF mean?" Joyce explains, loudly, what it means, saying she learned it from her daughter. A young mother with a child nearby is shocked at the profanity. It's all too cute by half. We're supposed to believe razor-sharp Elizabeth doesn't know what "WTF" means?

It's a few moments like this that cause some discomfort, raising the question of whether these characters are being, well, caricatured. Columbus seems to acknowledge the issue with an exchange where Joyce tells Elizabeth that she feels like she's in "one of those Sunday night dramas about two bright-eyed, feisty, old lady detectives outsmarting the police at every turn." Annoyed, Elizabeth tells her never to utter the words again.

In any case, there's a sadder undertone that provides some grounding here. Elizabeth's husband — poignantly played by Jonathan Pryce — is in the early stages of dementia, a fact Elizabeth is keeping from him. He has his good days and his bad ones, she explains to a friend. Sometimes he's his old self, and sometimes he's just gone.

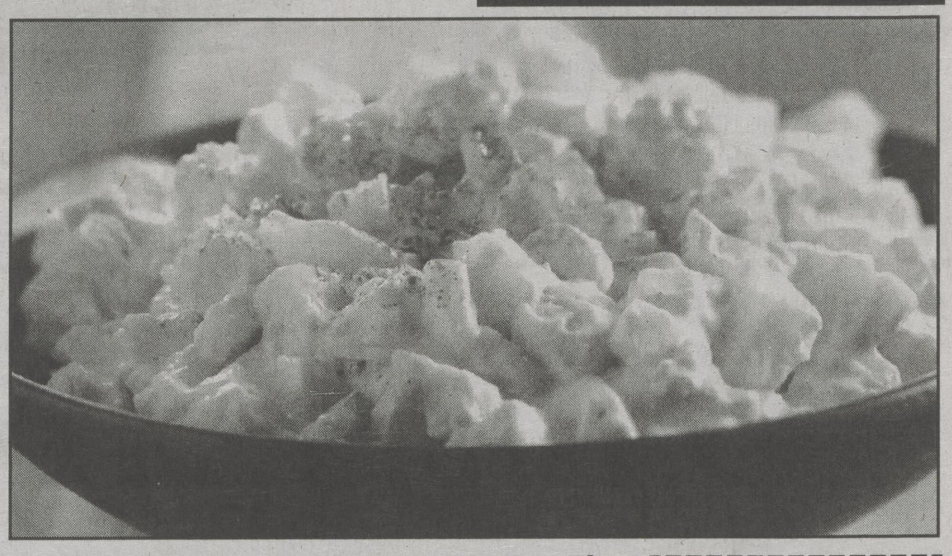
It's a message that even if our main protagonists seem healthy and active, they're at a stage in life where every day is a bit more precarious. "Cherish the good moments," the friend tells Elizabeth.

It's a good message, overall, for the movie. The script could certainly be sharper, the comedy more clever. But for two hours on Netflix, Coopers Chase is rather a comfy place to be, with some moments to cherish.

"The Thursday Murder Club," a Netflix release, has been rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association "for violent content/bloody images, strong language and some sexual references." Running time: 118 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

HomeNewsHere RECIPE

POTATO SALAD



A SCRUMPTIOUS SUMMER ENDING - The best potato salad recipe deliver the creamy, tangy flavor that's the quintessential taste of summer. With crunchy celery and hard-cooked eggs, it's been a favorite for generations.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds round red or white potatoes (about 6 medium)
- 1 1/2 cups mayonnaise or whipped salad dressing
- 1 tablespoon white or cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 2 medium stalks celery, chopped (1 cup)
- 1 small onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 4 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
- Paprika, if desired

STEPS

Step 1:
Wash the potatoes, and with a vegetable peeler, remove the skins. Rinse under cool water.

Step 2:
Place whole potatoes in 3-quart saucepan; add enough water to cover potatoes. Cover and heat to boiling; reduce heat to low. Cook covered 25 to 30 minutes or until potatoes are tender; drain. Let stand until cool enough to handle. Cut potatoes into cubes.

Step 3:
In a large bowl, mix mayonnaise, vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper.

Step 4:
Gently mix in potatoes, celery, and onion. Stir in eggs. Sprinkle with paprika.

Step 5:
Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours to blend flavors and chill. Store covered in refrigerator.

EXPERT TIPS

• Whipped dressing is often referred to by the brand name Miracle Whip. It can be used in place of the real mayonnaise in this recipe. Both work equally as well, so let your taste buds decide.

• Capers, olives or pickles are also a nice addition to a Creamy Potato Salad recipe: Stir in 1 tablespoon small drained capers or 2 tablespoons to 1/4 cup chopped sweet or dill pickle relish. You can also add sliced or chopped pitted and well-drained olives.

• Potatoes come in all sorts of varieties. Most are waxy and particularly good for potato salads. Try fingerling medleys that include red, yellow, and purple potatoes or small white potatoes with yellow flesh. The skins these varieties are generally very tender, so there's no need to peel. To use in the potato salad, cut in half lengthwise, and boil 10 to 15 minutes or just until tender. Drain, cool enough to handle, and cut into smaller pieces.

• WOBURN FROM B1

regulations render a pre-existing property's dimensions or its underlying use as illegal, so-called grandfather protections are extended to it.

Local zoning provisions also allow for the owners of such properties to obtain variances or special permits to renovate such buildings so long as the repairs and/or additions don't create further non-conformities that are more detrimental to the surrounding neighborhood than what currently exists.

However, under state regulations and a local zoning provision adopted by the City Council back in 2013, those grandfather protections can be stripped away from a property if it is abandoned for two consecutive years. In those cases, landlords must then bring the entire property up to modern day building and zoning code standards.

Tarby during an initial public hearing before the City Council last spring reported that his client essentially found himself in a procedural black hole because the underlying Church Street lot was simply too small to build a zoning compliant house that met all of the city's dimensional and setback standards.

He also suggested that there were a handful of other rundown houses in Woburn that have similarly lost their grandfather protections.

Wary of legal loopholes

When the abandoned property legislation was first unveiled last spring, Woburn's Planning Board, which issues recommendations to the City Council on zoning amendments, recommended against passage of the petition due to concerns about unintended consequences.

For example, Planning Board Robert Klein, one of the few planners open to considering the merits of the legislation, worried the change would open the floodgates for unscrupulous developers to maximize rental income by arguing their properties had at one point functioned as multi-family residences.

"My only comment is [we should] consider some type of timeframe, because this opens the door for every building that was a two-family since the 1800s [to be considered for a conversion back into a multi-family use]," said Klein. "Candidly, in this case, I think it is reasonable to [allow for the proposed zoning change]."

During their own deliberations, the City Council would express nearly identical concerns.

"I hate seeing rundown properties, especially abandoned ones, so if we can do something that could create something new and vibrant for those neighborhoods and the city, I'm on board," DiMambro stated during a public hearing in City Hall in mid-May. "[But first], I want to drill further down on this and get input from Commissioner Quinn about how this could be taken advantage of."

After the council spent the better-part of three months debating the measure, City Solicitor Mark Salvati shifted the tide in the petitioner's favor after contending that he couldn't foresee any way in which the process could be abused. Quinn would also agree with that legal opinion.

Salvati in his August memo to the City Council's Ordinance, Charter and Rules Committee also pointed out that Medford and Haverhill had enacted a similar process to restore "preexisting, nonconforming" zoning statuses to abandoned properties. Meanwhile, Tarby drove home the point that special permits could only be issued to those who owned single and two-family residences, meaning the owners of long gone industrial plants and other intensive commercial uses could not attempt to revive those facilities.

"Neither [the building commissioner or the city solicitor] see any way in which this ordinance can be manipulated into something else. I don't mean to be repetitive, but this would impact only one and two-family homes in [our residential zoning districts]," responded Tarby, addressing council concerns that the legislation might ultimately be used to revive long abandoned commercial and industrial uses in area neighborhoods.

"I want to extend my appreciation to City Solicitor Salvati for providing an opinion that included examples of how other communities are not using this for any type of nefarious back-door deals or anything like that. It's another tool in the toolbox for somebody whose property has lapsed out of an allowable non-conformity," Demers would later say of that legal advice.

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BURLINGTON

65 Cambridge St was sold to Rhule, Shaina H and Rhule, Jevon by Liu, Jin and Yang, Yihui for $1,110,000 on 08/14/25

135 Mill St was sold to 135 Mill St LLC by Elaine A Wishneusky Irt and Wishneusky, Carl R for $830,000 on 08/15/25

LYNNFIELD

8 Glen Dr was sold to Allyson Luizzo RET and Luizzo, Allyson by 8 Glen Drive Nt and Duckworth, Cheryl M for $1,465,000 on 08/13/25

14 Midland Rd was sold to Camargo, Evelyn and Camargo, Miguel by William R Gear T and Gear, Diane F for $1,075,000 on 08/14/25

5 Windsor Rd was sold to Leach, Kelsey F and Leach, Zachary D by Caprio, Christopher M and Caprio, Meghan E for $1,490,000 on 08/12/25

NORTH READING

5 Bow St was sold to Leo, Elizabeth and Leo, Anthony by Richardson, James A and Richardson, Lisa M for $650,000 on 08/15/25

89 Central St was sold to 57 Lexington Street Rt and Murray, Richard P by Steuck Michael J Est and Howe, Arielle S for $200,000 on 08/14/25

114 Chestnut St was sold to Hoyt, Clifford C and Hoyt, Roma F by Oliveira, Stephen C and Gilboy, John C for $1,175,000 on 08/13/25

23 Linwood Ave was sold to Figueroa, Sandra by Bradbuilt Const Co LLC for $1,112,500 on 08/12/25

300 Martins Lndg #9110 was sold to Conway, Brian P by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $500,000 on 08/14/25

1 Ridgeway Rd was sold to Griffin, Michael and Truitt-Blaisdell, Louise by Connors, Beth for $1,125,000 on 08/15/25

15 Stewart Rd was sold to Kasle, Lauren and Sarsfield, Daniel by Curtis, Laurence N and Curtis, Deborah for $849,000 on 08/12/25

READING

24 Cory Ln was sold to Klee, Christian and Klee, Alexander by Christine G Sullivan RET and Sullivan, Lee C for $1,699,999 on 08/14/25

49 James Rd was sold to Clark, Adam and Clark, Patricia by Hildreth Joint RET and Hildreth, Mark E for $1,300,000 on 08/15/25

108 Johnson Woods Dr #108 was sold to Kasuganti, Shravan and Joginapelly, Tanvi by Johnson Woods Realty Cor for $1,269,000 on 08/11/25

51 Lilah Ln was sold to Mckenna, Alessandra and Mckenna, John by Iacoviello, Joseph A and Iacoviello, Katherine M for $1,500,000 on 08/15/25

605 Summer Ave #2-68 was sold to Habib, Michael and Gabra, Christine by My Two Sons Holdings LLC for $460,000 on 08/14/25

605 Summer Ave #1-62 was sold to He, Chen by Kothare, Chetana and Kothare, Raveena S for $420,000 on 08/15/25

35 Warren Ave was sold to Wallace, George by Conboy, Petra L for $915,000 on 08/15/25

STONEHAM

426 Main St #206 was sold to Leblanc, Jared by Crawford Diane Est and Doherty, Wendy J for $499,950 on 08/14/25

64 Main St #25B was sold to Devereaux, Linda M by Neves, Luis and Ellington-Neves, Joann for $407,500 on 08/12/25

22 Walsh Ave was sold to Obrien, Patrick and Bonner, Nicole by Moyer, Jeff and Yang, Ruowei for $840,000 on 08/14/25

TEWKSBURY

28 Central St was sold to Tagliaferro, Jared and Tagliaferro, Alyssa by Stacia Ann Tagliagerro L and Tagliaferro, Stacia A for $220,000 on 08/14/25

180 Foster Rd was sold to Morris, Heather and Morris, Andrew G by Difelice Ft and Difelice, Allison J for $715,490 on 08/12/25

9 Hinckley Rd was sold to Leung, Wai T by Marilyn F Abelli Irt and Abelli, Francis M for $533,000 on 08/14/25

25 Jills Way #25 was sold to Rivers, Donna by Pellegrino, Robert W and Pellegrino, Susan for $715,000 on 08/15/25

2212 Main St was sold to Paglia Inc by Proctor, Richard W and Paglia, Robert D for $900,000 on 08/11/25

5 Miles Rd was sold to Barringer 3rd, George E and Soto, Dolores A by Davis, Curtis for $610,000 on 08/11/25

20 Mississippi Rd was sold to Falzone, Daniel and Humphrey, Jillian by Miranda, Christopher M and Miranda, Michelle for $710,000 on 08/15/25

15 Oak St was sold to Singh, Tarunpreet by Kwok, Betty for $520,000 on 08/12/25

78 Randolph Dr #78 was sold to Peterson, Amy E by Divito, Vidalia for $388,500 on 08/15/25

21 Rhoda St was sold to Jerome, David and Jerome, Deborah K by Rhoda St LLC for $845,000 on 08/11/25

825 South St was sold to Kwok, Betty by Rodriguez, Marta I for $650,000 on 08/12/25

57 Vernon St was sold to Graham, Jessica and Rudder, Jacquelyn by Wong, Peter and Wong, Vicky for $560,000 on 08/14/25

WAKEFIELD

10 4th St was sold to Benedetto, Natalia L by Benedetto, Charles A for $550,000 on 08/15/25

2 Hart St #B was sold to Snell, Emma and Prespolis, Joseph by Stratford, Kelly and Cooney, Brendon M for $531,000 on 08/15/25

101 Hopkins St #1 was sold to Huxley, Adam by Chen, Zhiwei and Weng, Dandan for $759,000 on 08/11/25

10 King St was sold to Guyon, Rebekka A by Valente, Salvatore F and Valente, Helen F for $1,025,000 on 08/15/25

28 Lake St #A was sold to Manning, Bridget and Ravinal, Eric by Tekeste, Biniam for $710,000 on 08/15/25

28 Lake St #B was sold to Willbur, Katelyn and Stefinsky, Robert by Tekeste, Biniam for $705,000 on 08/15/25

5 Memory Ln was sold to Gardiner Jr, William and Gardiner, Molly by Beaver, John and Beaver, Sharyn for $1,115,000 on 08/14/25

50 Pitman Ave was sold to Henderson, Grace I and Raible, Nicholas J by Welch, Timothy J and Welch, Lindsey for $925,000 on 08/15/25

39 Pleasant St was sold to Lozzi, Kenneth and Lozzi, Jessica A by Savery, William A and Teixeira, Virginia M for $750,000 on 08/11/25

234 Water St #101 was sold to Giovannucci, Giancarlo by Bearse, Patricia L for $400,000 on 08/14/25

5 Wyoma St was sold to 5 Wyoma Street Rt and Carr, Bernard C by Selvitella, David N and Selvitella, Melanie J for $865,000 on 08/15/25

WILMINGTON

29 Belmont Ave was sold to Cushing, Justin and Aston, Brittany by Downing, Nicole R and Downing, Ryan J for $690,000 on 08/14/25

3 Biggar Ave was sold to Downing, Nicole R and Downing, Ryan J by Roberta Battite RET and Batite, Roberta for $805,000 on 08/14/25

15 King St was sold to Marshall Ft and Marshall, Mary V by Brown, Matt and Brown, Christy for $870,000 on 08/14/25

203 Lowell St #217 was sold to Gaikwad, Pratik and Wagh, Priyanka by 203 Lowell St Owner LLC for $659,000 on 08/15/25

399 Shawsheen Ave was sold to Kommineni, Sushma and Kommineni, Sagar C by Dimare, Michael for $560,000 on 08/14/25

16 Upton Dr #5 was sold to Archelon Properties LLC by Virtuoso Rt and Mahoney Jr, James E for $4,580,000 on 08/13/25

WINCHESTER

25 Canterbury Rd was sold to 25 Canterbury Road LLC by Campbell, Scott F and Campbell, Nicole for $1,280,000 on 08/15/25

9 Emerson Ct was sold to Lynch, Brian and Finkelstein, Sara by Maxwell, Joyce Y for $790,001 on 08/15/25

21 Fernway was sold to Yi, David H and Yi, Sharlene by Liesching, Timothy N and Liesching, Karen E for $2,890,000 on 08/14/25

60 Lake St #I was sold to Sun, Zhen and Yang, Man by Pamela M Johansen T and Johansen, Pamela M for $640,000 on 08/15/25

831 Main St was sold to Et Main Street LLC by Taa Rt and Siniscalco, Vincenzo for $2,000,000 on 08/13/25

19 Pilgrim Dr was sold to Dang, Robin and Zhan, Yao by Lauta, Lea and Berwald, Torben for $1,775,000 on 08/15/25

9 Prospect St was sold to Fothergill, William and Zacharia, Jennifer by Lindenbaum, Matthew and Glick, Ariel for $2,175,000 on 08/14/25

518 Washington St was sold to Saltmarsh, Jay and Saltmarsh, Brooke by Vigliotti, Nicholas J and Vigliotti, Jennifer L for $1,160,000 on 08/14/25

4 Winslow Rd was sold to Hopper, Calvin B and Hopper, Lauren by Cordeiro, Eduardo and Cordeiro, Cecilia for $2,215,000 on 08/12/25

WOBURN

4 3rd Rd was sold to Mekala, Ravi K by Marquis, Lawrence R and Chaisson, Joanne for $570,000 on 08/15/25

74 Beach St #1-3 was sold to Sneed, James M and Sneed, Elisabeth D by Kerble, Alyssa and Kerble, Christine for $220,000 on 08/11/25

25 Burlington St was sold to Flanders, Elizabeth and Silva, Thomas by Gill, Scott P and Gill, Heather for $850,000 on 08/15/25

49 Duren Ave was sold to Constitution Prop LLC by Sandquist, Elizabeth R for $400,000 on 08/12/25

7 Garvey Rd #7 was sold to Kelkar, Mahesh V by Lapointe, Heather O for $854,000 on 08/12/25

3 Indiana Ave was sold to Sinha, Tanya and Rajeev, Srijith by Elliott, Byron and Elliott, Molly for $812,000 on 08/15/25

13 Leonard St was sold to Moorman, William C and Zhang, Xinyi by Maltacea Rt and Maltacea, Joseph P for $780,000 on 08/11/25

83 Montvale Ave was sold to Connolly, Patrick and Connolly, Elise by Sharon M Connolly RET and Connolly, Sharon M for $570,000 on 08/15/25

6 Stratton Dr #111 was sold to Liang, Jianci by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $265,600 on 08/14/25

6 Stratton Dr #105 was sold to Lopes, Sarah O by Pulte Hm Of New Eng LLC for $265,600 on 08/13/25

40 Waltham St was sold to Jiang, Wenjing and Han, Huyuan by Shi, Ce and Duan, Chengfang for $935,000 on 08/14/25

8 Whispering Hill Rd was sold to Bouboulis, Georgios by Ricci O Albano Irt and Albano, Maureen O for $619,000 on 08/11/25

8 Whispering Hill Rd was sold to Russo, Jason and Russo, Victoria by Bouboulis, Georgios for $1,400,000 on 08/13/25

Sunday, September 14

Woburn Historical Society hosts its annual History Trolley Tour

WOBURN — Local residents will have the opportunity to take a step back in time next month as the Woburn Historical Society hosts its annual History Trolley Tour on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025.

The guided trolley excursion will explore Woburn's role in the birth of the nation, making stops at some of the city's most historically significant locations. Sites on the tour include the First Burial Ground, Horn Pond, the Burdett Mansion — which is currently hosting a special exhibit — Skylight Studios, the Battle Road Memorial and Sam Walker's American Tavern.

Tours will be offered in two sessions, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Participants are asked to check in 20 minutes prior to departure at Woburn Memorial High School, 88 Montvale Ave.

Tickets are $35 per person, with proceeds benefiting the society's historical and educational programs and events.

"Woburn has such a rich and fascinating history," the society said in an announcement. "This tour is a way to connect our community with its past and preserve these stories for future generations."

Tickets may be purchased by mail, in person or online. Mail orders should include a check payable to the Woburn Historical Society and be sent to P.O. Box 91, Woburn, MA 01801. In-person purchases can be made by cash or check at the society's office, 7 Mishawum Road, during regular hours — Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

Online orders can be placed at www.WoburnHistoricalSociety.com, and tickets are also available via a QR code printed on event flyers.

For more information, call 781-933-5002.

Weekly Tech Help appointments return to Tewksbury Public Library on Sept. 9

Weekly Tech Help appointments return to Tewksbury Public Library beginning Tuesday September 9th.

Appointments available:

Tuesdays 2:00pm-2:30pm and 2:30pm-3:00pm

Wednesdays 3:00pm-3:30pm and 3:30pm-4:00pm

Registrants can book a TPL Librarian for 30 minutes to help you with your technology questions, including:

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Providing medical, legal, or business advice or opinions (but we can refer you to organizations that can)

The library reserves the right to determine whether a tech question is beyond the scope of service. Library behavioral guidelines and policies apply to all technology help interactions.

Registration is required to attend a Tech Help appointment at www.tewksburypl.org.

Patrons may book up to twice a month, one question per session.

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Tewksbury Police Log

California man arrested for open and gross lewdness

Monday, August 25

1:44 a.m. - Front desk employee stated Expedia was calling her reporting male in above room calling Expedia stating that he was being threatened by weapons at Motel 6. Employee was speaking to female out of that room. Police sent. Female party in the room did not know the male party and had never met him. Lowell police went to do a well being check. No contact made with male and they spoke with the parents who were contacting him.

5:14 a.m. - Surveillance company reported vehicle in the lot at Atamian Honda. Gray Sedan drove to middle of the lot and was unsure if Sedan was still on property. Police sent. Nothing suspicious at this time.

6:41 p.m. - A 911 caller reported customers at Walmart were arguing. Parties described as a female in a red dress in a wheelchair, caller's husband wearing a plaid shirt and other male wearing a tan shirt. Police sent. All parties were spoke to and it was a verbal argument only. Officer filed a report.

Tuesday, August 26

6:41 a.m. - Resident of Grove Street reported that construction work was being conducted and they woke people up and violating the noise ordinance. Police sent. They spoke with supervisor on scene who was moving piece of equipment across the street. Supervisor made aware of ordinance.

9:33 a.m. - Caller reported a shirtless male walking around and pulling his shorts down exposing himself at Motel 6. Police sent. James Strode, 37, of 902 Nebraska St. in Vallejo California, was arrested and charged with open and gross lewdness.

10:30 a.m. - Caller reported someone broke into his vehicle and his barn overnight at Ward Street. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

6:12 p.m. - A 911 caller reported he believed someone was using a signal jammer at Archstone Avenue. Caller stated multiple people in the lot reported their keys aren't working. Caller was leaving the area. Police sent. They spoke with the calling party and they were standing too far away from their vehicle for the fob to work.

Wednesday, August 27

1:08 p.m. - Caller reported a male party in the port-a-potty by the skate park was exposing himself at Livingston Street Park. Police sent and advised the male it was a misunderstanding. Officer filed a report.

8:10 p.m. - Homeowner of Fairway Drive was not home and a female party opened the screen door of the house and was now sitting in the vehicle in the driveway. Hispanic or light skin female sat in a white sedan. Police sent. The woman was at the wrong house.

9:36 p.m. - Caller reported a car driving erratic and towing a couch in the parking lot at Radcliffe Road. Police sent and spoke with the operator. He would move the couch out of the parking lot.

10:16 p.m. - Alarm company reported a male party that appeared on camera near the building, got into a vehicle and left the property in a gray sedan at Atamian Honda. The building armed and the male left the property. They did not know if it was their employee and could not tell if the vehicle was a company vehicle or a personal vehicle. Police sent and they checked the area. All appeared normal.

Thursday, August 28

8:20 a.m. - Employee advised female constantly screaming and would not stop at Extended Stay America. Police sent. Party was spoken to and would quiet down. Officer filed a report.

10:39 a.m. - Caller not on scene reported he received a call from his nanny who reported a suspicious male in the backyard at Whipple Road. Caller reported he was a 60-year old male wearing a blue pants and shirt sitting by the swings set. Police sent and reported party was visiting.

5:28 p.m. - Caller stated male party stole her wallet out of her bag at Walmart. White male described as six feet tall and wearing a gray baseball hat, glasses, white shirt, and jeans. Store security checked the cameras. Police sent. Officer spoke to the party.

9:40 p.m. - Caller reported a suspicious vehicle that turned off its lights as it turned onto the street of Washington Street and then went back toward the industrial garage. Caller believed it was suspicious and he was the "watch dog" of the neighborhood. Police sent. Officer filed a report once they checked the area and it was gone.

10:14 p.m. - A 911 caller reported Chevy four by four driving erratically in the parking lot at Dollar Tree. Police sent. Cars dispersed. Units cleared.

Friday, August 29

3:12 p.m. - Anonymous tip regarded past alleged underage parties with alcohol in the woods of Jennies Way. Officer filed a report.

4:34 p.m. - Caller reported her neighbor saw someone on her property since she was on vacation and her neighbor took him off the property for her at Patricia Drive. The caller had camera footage and would send it to her neighbor for the report. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

Saturday, August 30

1:21 a.m. - Police checked on a motor vehicle at Dollar Tree. Police spoke to a RO who was manager at a restaurant in the plaza closing for the evening.

12:11 p.m. - Detail at Livingston Street Park reported an argument between the coaches. Police reported verbal only as the situation was deescalated prior to arrival.

9:55 p.m. - Caller on Cardigan reported about five minutes ago, they heard two loud bangs believed to be on Kendall Road. Police sent. They checked the area and reported nothing showing. No loud noises at this time.

Sunday, August 31

12:23 a.m. - A resident on Chandler Street reported there was a car alarm that kept going off. No description, in driveway. Police sent. They spoke to the resident. All set and the area was secured.

12:14 p.m. - Caller reported he was threatened by a guest in the next room at Motel 6. Police sent. This was verbal argument only. No threats were made. Officer filed a report.

Wilmington Police Log

Gloucester man arrested for criminal harassment

Friday, Aug. 22:

10:24 a.m.: A caller on Church Street reported a gray 2022 Toyota Tacoma drove onto the island on the town common and knocked down one of the street signs. Police pulled over the vehicle at the Reading Co-op on Middlesex Avenue.

3:35 p.m.: A woman who stated she was at the Mc Govern Hyundai on Main Street earlier that day said she believed someone from the dealership stole a scratch ticket out of her vehicle, and that a salesman took a picture of her license plate. The person accused of stealing the scratch ticket denied the accusation, and the woman said she would follow up with the Mass lottery and the general manager the next day.

6:47 p.m.: A black 2014 Chevy Silverado was involved in a motor vehicle accident on Salem Street. Airbags were deployed, the vehicle got stuck on the tracks and blocked trains from coming through, and the driver was transported by the fire department due to a possible diabetic emergency and arm lacerations.

Saturday, Aug. 23:

12:59 a.m.: Christopher Charles Stairs of 15 Dexter St., in Wilmington, was issued a summons for operating an unregistered motor vehicle and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This followed a stop of his white 2012 Hyundai Sonata near the Country Chef on Main Street.

2:53 p.m.: A white 2018 Chevy Trax and a white 2017 Ford Escape were involved in a motor vehicle accident in the parking lot of the Ace Hardware on Main Street. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported.

4:06 p.m.: While police were investigating another incident involving a patient's missing perfume, staff at Willowbrook Rehab on West Street reported a patient with unusual bruising. The patient was taken from the facility for medical treatment.

Sunday, Aug. 24:

10:56 a.m.: A caller on Middlesex Avenue reported that she had been bitten by a passing dog at the farmer's market. The woman refused medical attention, and was unsure if her bruising was caused by a bite or the dog jumping up on her. Additionally, both police and the woman were unable to find the dog, described as medium-sized, with golden, curly hair.

Monday, Aug. 25:

7:15 a.m.: Tiffany Chanel Reiss, of 51 Abbott Road, in North Reading, was issued a summons for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked registration. This followed a stop of her black 2016 Chevy Silverado near the Firestone on Main Street.

9:22 a.m.: Gabriel Da Silva, of 10 Tracey St., Apt. #3, in Peabody, was issued a summons for not having a valid inspection sticker, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This followed a stop of his white 2010 Ford Transit on Main Street.

2:37 p.m.: Police witnessed a motor vehicle accident between a white 2021 Kia Sorento and a green 2010 Toyota Corolla in the parking lot of the Dollar Tree on Main Street. Police assisted with paperwork exchange.

Tuesday, Aug. 26:

10:44 a.m.: A caller at the Lowes on Main Street reported the company was refusing to pay him after his work. The man was given the proper contact information to resolve his issue.

6:03 p.m.: A caller at Wilmington House of Pizza on Main Street reported a past hit-and-run, stating that his black 2016 Chevy Equinox had parked in the lot all day, but when he returned, he noticed the side was damaged. Police were unable to find any camera footage from nearby businesses.

7:35 p.m.: A white 2012 Toyota Prius and a white 2013 Ford Fusion were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Lowell Street. No airbags were deployed, no injuries were reported, and police assisted with paperwork exchange.

Wednesday, Aug. 27:

3:13 p.m.: Bryan J Barker of 16 Lamont St., in Billerica, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and speeding. This followed a stop of his black 2023 Nissan Murano on Aldrich Road.

7:33 p.m.: A resident on Chestnut Street reported that his wife's home health aide was harassed by their neighbor while she went out for a walk. Police were able to restore the peace.

11:18 p.m.: A caller reported about 8 to 10 vehicles racing up and down Lowell Street, and soon after, the vehicles left towards the highway. Police were unable to track down any of the vehicles in town, and state police were notified of the incident.

Thursday, Aug. 28:

7:10 a.m.: A white 2019 Honda Civic struck a pole near the Pepsi Cola building on Eames Street. No airbags were deployed and no injuries were reported, and Verizon was notified of damage to the pole.

7:42 a.m.: A blue 2022 Kia EV6 and a black 2018 Chevy Cruze were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Salem Street. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported, but one person was issued a citation for unsafe operation of a motor vehicle.

4:28 p.m.: Robert Tocco of 235 Washington St., in Gloucester, was arrested for criminal harassment and misdemeanor breaking and entering. This followed a caller on Avalon Drive reporting that her child's father was on her property, and would like him removed from her property, before he entered her apartment.

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September is College Fire Safety Month

STOW — September is College Fire Safety Month in Massachusetts, and State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine is reminding students, parents, and others to be sure that their living spaces have working smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, and that they know two ways out in an emergency.

Massachusetts fire departments reported 2,491 fires in student dormitories, fraternities, and sororities in Massachusetts between 2020 and 2024. These fires caused five civilian injuries, 11 fire service injuries, and around $3.7 million in estimated damages. More than 90% of them were related to unsafe cooking, with unattended cooking the most common factor.

"It doesn't matter if you're an experienced chef or cooking for yourself for the first time — always stay in the kitchen when you're cooking on the stovetop," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "Set a timer if you've got something in the oven, and if you're drowsy or impaired then order takeout. Falling asleep with food on a burner is a recipe for disaster."

More fires occur on campus in September than any other month, followed closely by October, and generally decline through the school year. Fire officials also share a concern about fire safety in apartments and other types of off-campus student housing, where two college students died in separate, unrelated fires in 2013.

"Fire safety is one of the most important factors whether you live in a dorm, apartment, single-family home, multifamily dwelling, sorority, or fraternity," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "Everyone should have working smoke and CO alarms on every level of their residence and know two or more ways out in case of an emergency. In the event of a fire, don't waste precious time gathering personal belongings — get out, stay out, and call 911."

He also noted that fire safety precautions should remain in place through the entirety of the year. Windows, doors, and stairways should be clear of boxes, furniture, bicycles, and any other obstructions at all times. Fire doors should never be blocked. And, as required by law, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms must be in operation year-round.

"If your rental doesn't have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, insist on them," State Fire Marshal Davine said. "Landlords are legally required to provide these vital safety tools. Check the manufacturing date printed on the back of your smoke alarms and replace them if they're more than 10 years old. Carbon monoxide alarms should be replaced after five, seven, or 10 years, depending on the make and model. And test your alarms once a month so you know they're working properly."

Working alarms, clear exit routes, and practicing a plan for using them are crucial for when a fire breaks out, but students can also take steps to prevent them from starting in the first place:

Smoking: There is no safe way to smoke, but if you must smoke then do it responsibly. Don't flick them on the ground, where they can smolder and ignite debris, or grind them out on porches or steps. Use a heavy ashtray on a sturdy surface and put it out all the way every time.

Electrical: Always plug appliances like air conditioners and space heaters into wall sockets that can handle the current, not power strips or extension cords. Don't overload outlets with multiple devices.

Heating: Turn space heaters off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Never leave a space heater unattended.

Cooking: Stand by your pan! Don't leave pots and pans unattended on a lit stovetop, and keep flammable items away from burners. In the event of a grease fire, smother the flames with a lid and then turn off the heat. Only cook when you're alert, not when you're drowsy or impaired.

Candles: Never leave candles burning unattended. Extinguish them before leaving the room. Even better, switch to battery-powered candles.

Lithium-Ion Batteries: Use the charging equipment provided by the manufacturer and disconnect it when the device is charged. Charge phones, laptops, e-cigarettes, e-bike batteries, and other devices on a hard and stable surface — never a bed, couch, or pillow. If you notice an unusual odor, change in color, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises, stop using the device right away. If you are able to do so safely, move it away from anything that can burn and call your local fire department.

For more fire safety tips for both on and off campus, visit *www.mass.gov/dfs*.

Town Crier SPORTS

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

Tewksbury High Fall Previews:

Girls soccer has high hopes once again

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Last year's Tewksbury Memorial High School girls' soccer season was certainly a success. The Redmen finished the regular season with an 11-5-2 record, before a tough 1-0 loss to Belchertown in the first round of the MIAA Division 3 state tournament.

After the completion of the season, two sophomores Lyla Chapman and CJ (Cordelia) Zwirek earned all kinds of accolades. Chapman, who scored 17 goals and added six assists, was named to the MVC All-Conference, Eastern Mass and All-State teams, while Zwirek was named to both the MVC and Eastern Mass teams after her 14-goal, 7-assist season.

Over the past two years, the duo has combined to score 57 goals.

"Lyla and Cordelia are both returning as forwards and they, as well as the rest of the team, knows that they will be targeted as soon as they step on the field," said fourth-year coach Brooke Pacheco. "Both of them had very successful seasons last year and we know they will not be sneaking up on any competition this year. From an attacking roll we know we need a full team effort to create scoring opportunities, especially if these two players are shut down early on."

After losing just three players from last year's team, Pacheco believes that strong chemistry within the entire roster should pay dividends.

"We have a large team of upperclassmen who have already played two-to-three years on varsity," she said. "This allows us to build off the foundation we built last season and continue to progress together. The girls show promising chemistry and communication on the field, and they understand tactical play very well. We are hopeful for another successful season."

Leading the way this season includes four captains: seniors Caitlyn Giansiracusa (goalie), Sophie Brewster (defense), Maya Paquette and Chloe Mello (midfield). Ten others return with varsity experience including: senior Jayme Martin (forward); juniors Nicole Baron (defense), Samantha Ryan (midfield), Sophia Nazzaro (defense), Mairead Kinnon (goalie), Kylee Squires (defense), Jane Garabedian (midfield) and Laila McFadden (midfield); and sophomores Sarah Marano (defense) and Lila Chambers (midfield).

"We are taking on a new tactical approach. In the four years that I have been with this program, I have never used the same formation as the year before," said Pacheco. "The girls are adjusting well, and it is my hope that we can use the strengths of our players to our advantage."

VOLLEYBALL

With six players returning from an 11-win season and another trip to the Division 3 state tournament, there's certainly a lot of optimism surrounding the Tewksbury High volleyball team.

"I am very excited for this season," said TMHS coach Allie Parker, now in her ninth season, which included winning a state championship in 2022. "We will be a scrappy team that relies on ball control. We have a solid group of upperclassmen along with some strong talent from the underclassmen. I am excited to see how the new talent pushes the returning players."

The Redmen will be led by their three captains, all seniors, Julianna Cappiello (outside hitter), Leah Fisk (setter) and Sienna Howell (defensive specialist).

"Julianna brings such a positive spirit to practice and games, and she really encourages her teammates to try their hardest. She is a great role model to her team, and I am excited to see all that she accomplishes this year," said Parker. "Leah has matured greatly throughout her time in the program, and I believe she will be a great advocate for her teammates this year. She works hard and is looking to continue her volleyball career at the collegiate level.

"Sienna will be joining us for her first full season on varsity. Sienna has been pulled up to varsity the last two years for our run in the state tournament. She is going to bring a steady and reliable presence to the court. She is also a key player in uniting our entire program."

Seniors Alison Furilla (middle blocker), Angelina Silva (liberio) and Oliva Tryder (middle blocker) as well as sophomore Arianna Paralle (outside hitter) also return with varsity experience.

The newcomers include seniors Isabella Belloste (right side hitter), Emily Watkins (middle blocker) and Cassie Berry (libero); juniors Taliana Mercedes (middle blocker) and Caylee Giansiracusa (setter); sophomore Kayleigh Martin (outside hitter); and freshmen Bella Cueva (setter) and Brooke Dykeman (outside hitter).

"We are on the smaller side this year, so it will be important for us to have a lot of ball control and be smart with hitting spots on offense," said Parker. "We will be working on lots of serve receive at the beginning of the season. One of our strengths will be serving this year. We have a lot of players who can serve the ball aggressively and place it strategically. I am also looking forward to working with my captains. Overall, I believe this will be a solid season for Tewksbury volleyball."

GOLF

Over the last handful of years, the overall golf competition within the Merrimack Valley Conference has continued to soar and this year should be no different. The league has a new alignment, with Chelmsford going to MVC Division 1 joining Central Catholic, Andover, North Andover, Haverhill and Billerica, which means MVC 2 will consist of Tewksbury, Lowell, Dracut and Methuen.

"That should be a competitive division," said TMHS coach Jim Sullivan, now in his 18th season. "Lowell returns a good number of players, as do several of the MVC Division 1 teams."

Tewksbury does as well — six in fact.

The Redmen return seniors Ricky Pacheco, Tyler Crawford, Tyler Bourgea, Drew Broderick, Mikey Devlin and Ricky Pacheco.

Newcomers include senior Nolan Fowle, junior Legend Crane, sophomores Nico Auriti, Evan Muir and Nathan Wiggin, and freshman Grady Claycomb, who is the son of Westford Academy head coach Patrick Claycomb.

"We'll see if they have improved to the same level as the other teams with the same number of returners. We're very excited about the development of our promising newcomers who have made significant improvements and are coming from last year's junior varsity team. Our compete level has increased, along with our on-course golf IQ, which will hopefully lead to an improved record this season, and a run at qualifying for the MIAA Division III Section Tournament"

The Redmen dropped their season opener to Haverhill, 13.5-6.5. Individual point earners for Tewksbury were Drew Broderick (Flat), Evan Muir (5 & 3, top medalist with a -1, 34), Mikey Devlin (Flat) and Grady Claycomb (Flat). Broderick and Muir won their four-ball match 5 & 3.

Also of note, former TMHS standout Matt Cooke is taking over as the program's JV coach.

BOYS SOCCER

The Tewksbury High boys' soccer team had a tough three-win season a year ago and lost eight seniors from that roster.

Fifth-year Redmen coach Mario Almeida is hoping for a fresh start with a lot of newcomers which he hopes helps increase that win total.

"Last season was tough for the team," the coach admitted. "With a good group of juniors, we feel we could surprise teams and have a better season in terms of wins and losses with the expectations to qualify for the state tournament. Players are having a good preseason. I'm looking forward to the start of the season."

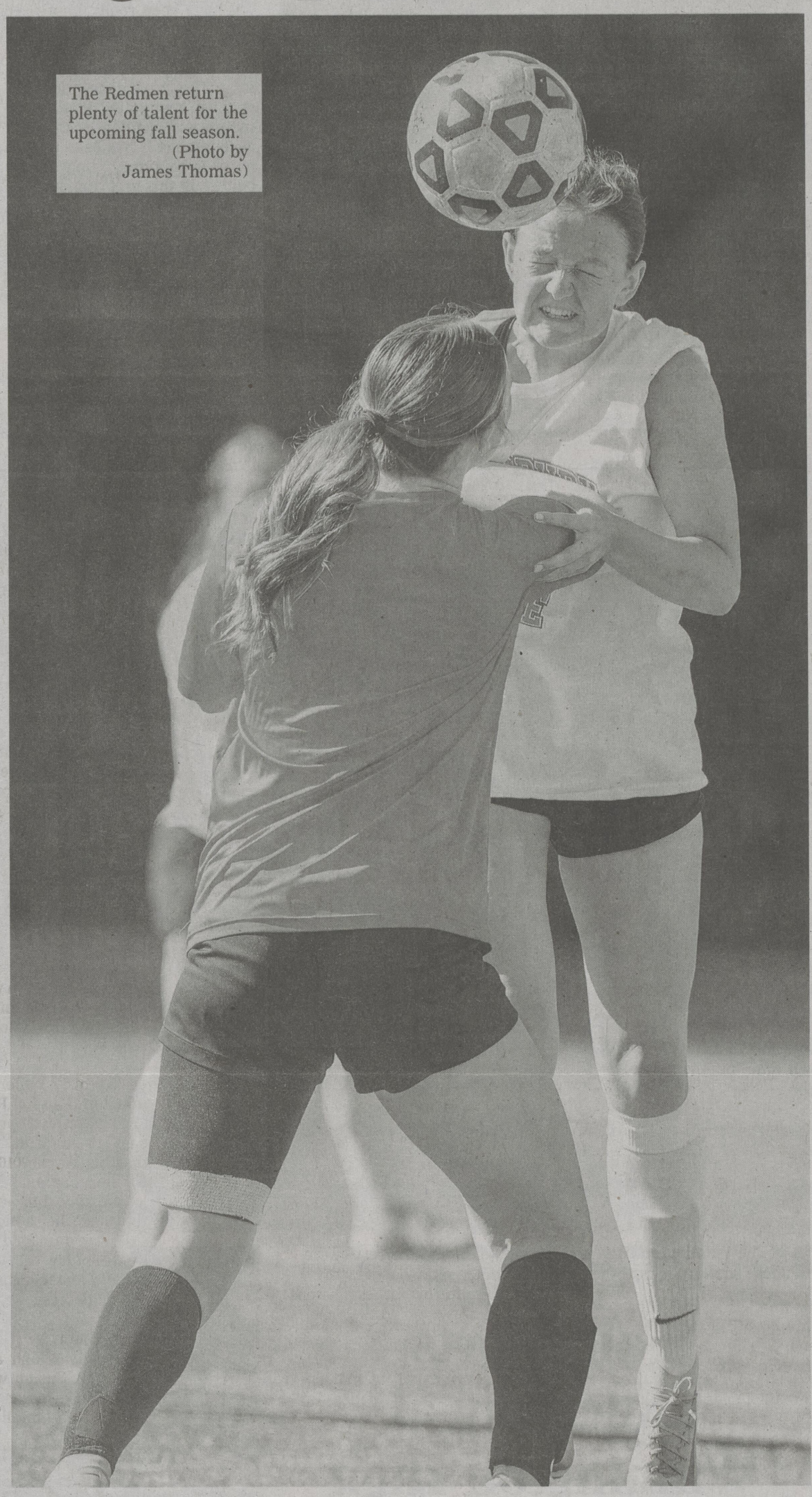
The team will be led by tri-captains Owen Sovie and Sean Maloney on defense, and goalie Vincent Rodriguez. Junior midfield Kevin Andriolo, the team's MVP a year ago, is the other returner.

The Redmen will have 16 newcomers to the roster including seniors Gustavo Oliveira (midfielder), Maddox Chretien (defense), Arbel Levinson (forward), Jonathan Kusmaul (defense) and Sean Kocsmiersky (forward); juniors John Pacheco (forward), Antonio Almeida (midfield), Craig Beasoleil (defense), Valery Bahizire (forward) and Evan Smith (defense); sophomores Rony Pereira (midfield), Miguel Febres (midfield), Michael Brinquinho (midfield); and freshmen Evan Cura (forward) and Charley Holden (mid/forward).

FIELD HOCKEY

The Tewksbury High field hockey team finished 9-10 overall last year, which included a first round, 4-0 loss to Falmouth in the Division 3 state tournament.

PREVIEWS | PAGE B6



The Redmen return plenty of talent for the upcoming fall season. (Photo by James Thomas)

Tewksbury's Tyler Crawford follows through on his drive at No. 2 during Tuesday's golf match in Haverhill. (Photo by James Thomas)

PREVIEWS FROM PAGE B5

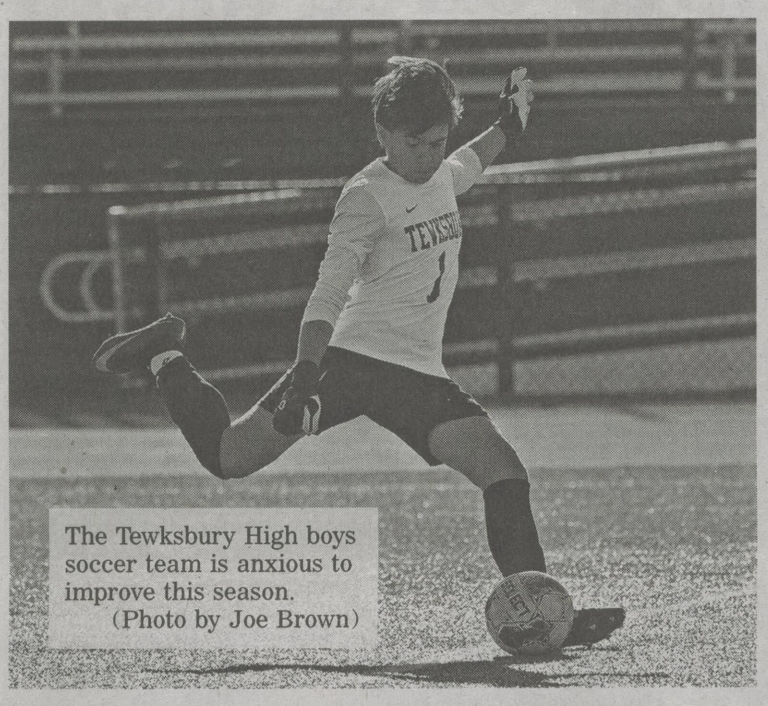
TMHS coach Jamie Bruno returns nine players with varsity experience including senior tri-captains Gabriella Davis (midfield), Jennalise Mercer (defense) and Kallie Mangan (midfield).

Seniors Bridget Kelleher (goalie), Riley Morrison (goalie), Kamryn Frechette (wing) and Riley Waterworth (forward) also return, as do junior Lila Areias (midfield) and sophomore Chloe Veator (wing).

Tewksbury XC ready to run

Newcomers include juniors Maeve Boyce (forward), Cheyenne Bartolone (forward), Alyssa Flahive (defense), Allison Cooke (defense), Alexis Cervera (wing) and Sophie Scott (forward), sophomore Alexa Morrison (goalie) and freshman Lea Sawyer (forward).

"We are confident in both our (senior returning) goalies," said Bruno. "Our style is to play hard, play together and be disciplined defensively. The coaches and players are looking forward to the upcoming season."



The Tewksbury High boys soccer team is anxious to improve this season.
(Photo by Joe Brown)

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Coming off consecutive 2-8 seasons, third-year Tewksbury High boys cross-country coach TJ Wilson knows the competition within the league is extremely tough but behind strong leadership, he is hoping a few more wins come the Redmen way.

"I have been really impressed with our captains," he said, referring to Steven Oppedisano and Payton Haines, both seniors. "They have done a phenomenal job motivating their teammates and holding each other accountable. It has been a focus for us to continue to improve the culture in this program over the past couple years."

Besides the two of them, other returners include seniors Leke Lajqi, Reverenceworth Loubowah, Justin Quarterone, Kyle Ernwein and Ian Todd, juniors Nathan Carrol and Ryan King and sophomore Jaxon Flaherty.

Newcomers include juniors Andrew Crowley and Aaden Ledoux and freshmen Andrew St. Germain and JJ Bates.

"I think we are going to start to see their hard work start to pay off. We face some tough competition, but our guys are up to the challenge," said Wilson. "I am already starting to see some runners make some real improvements in the first couple weeks."

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

The Tewksbury High girls cross country team is also coming off a 2-8 season.

This year's team will be led by tri-captains Teagan Claycomb, Sarah Grimes and Payton Van Gorder. Other returners include junior Brooke Marano and sophomore Olivia Jensen. Newcomers include freshmen Maeve Burns and Abby Leone.

"All members of our small squad are very motivated and excited to see what we can put together this season," said TMHS coach Courtney Cooke, now in her fourth season.

"Many of them put in the summer hours and have been returners to the team for their third or fourth season, so we have the experience on our side this year."

SWIMMING

The Tewksbury/Methuen co-op/co-ed swim and dive team is coming off another strong successful season, including a 7-2 regular season record, while the boys team competed against themselves winning both the Division 1 sectional and state titles.

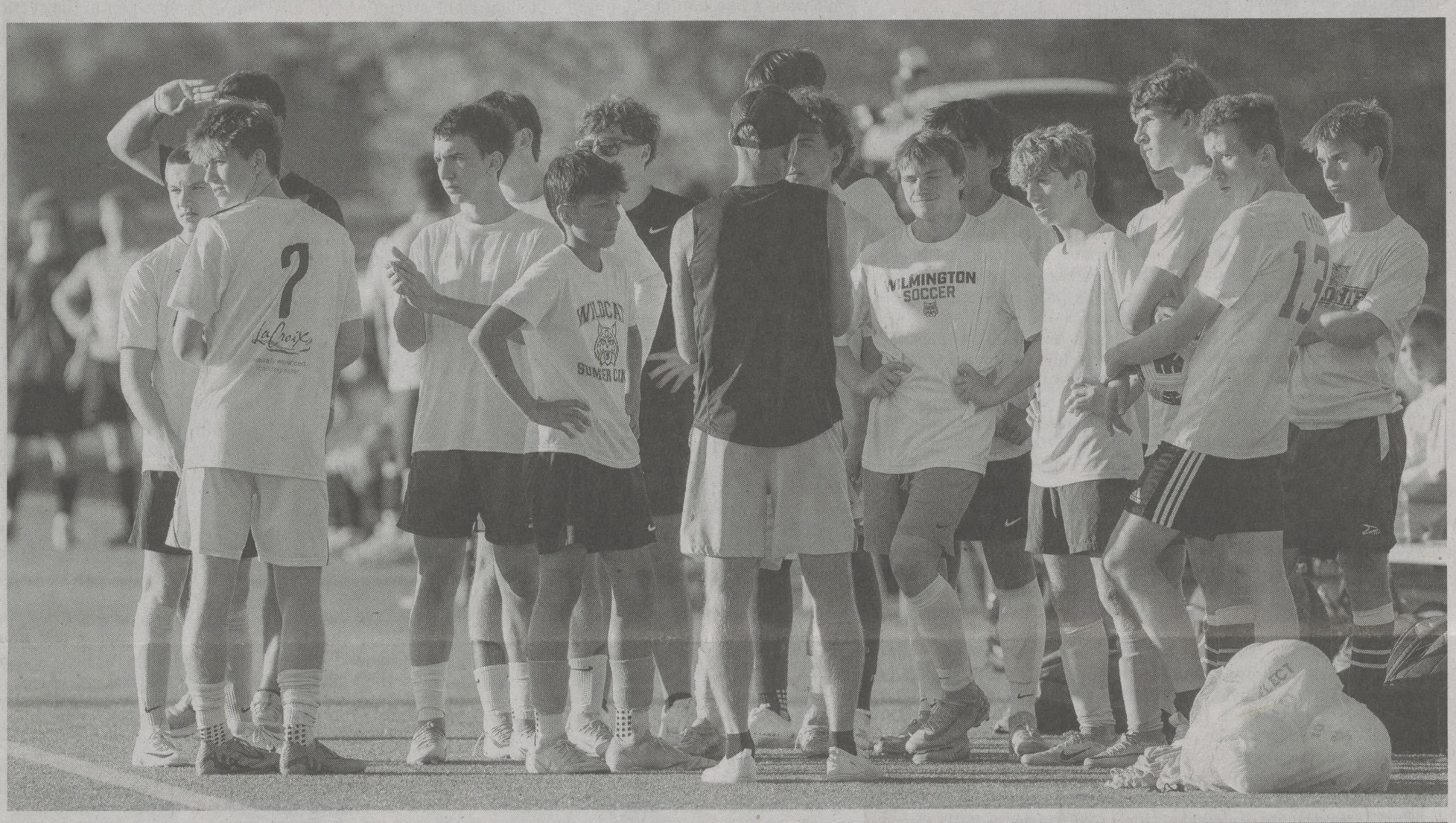
There are 10 Tewksbury residents on this year's team. On the girls' side, senior Joanna Green (butterfly/backstroke), junior Madisyn Greenwood (freestyle) and sophomore Avitel Gaidukova (breaststroke) are returners. The lone newcomer is eighth grader Evathia Kazanis.

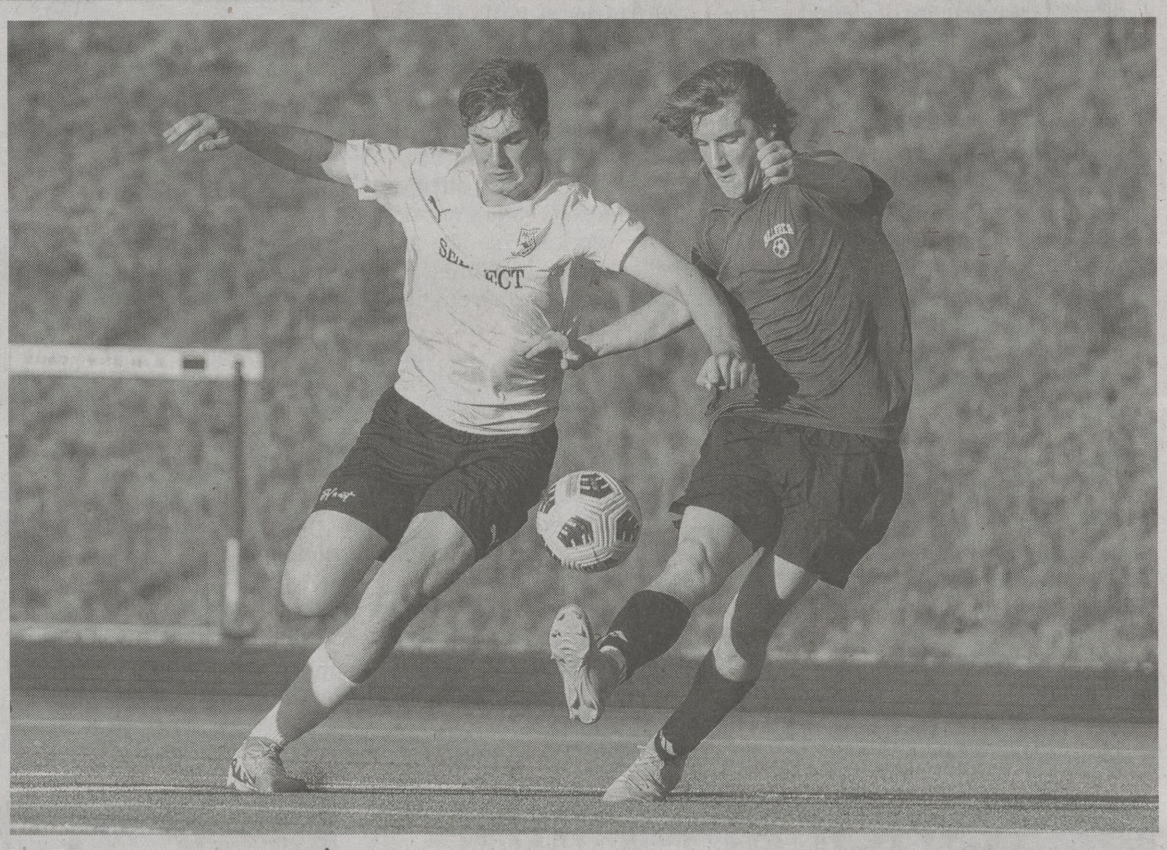
On the boys' side, Alan Dang is one of the two captains. He returns after a terrific season which saw him finish third in the 100-yard butterfly (1:00.32) and fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:12.42) while being a part of the second place 200-medley relay team and third place 200-freestyle relay team at the sectional meet.

The newcomers to the boys' team include sophomore Joseph Todd, freshmen Kyle Chiu, Dylan Dang and Gabe Pinheiro.

"We graduated a very strong class, so our young team will have some big spots to fill," said head coach Jason Smith, who is in his 23rd season sporting a record of 147-99-1.

"However, we have had a great first week of practice, and hopefully that hard work will pay off and we will be ready to compete in our first meet on September 5 against Chelmsford."





▲▶ The Wilmington High boys soccer team and the rest of the Wildcat squads kick off their seasons this week.
(Photos by James Thomas)

Fall sports underway at Wilmington High

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The fall season is underway at Wilmington High and just about every Wildcat squad has kicked off its 2025 season this week.

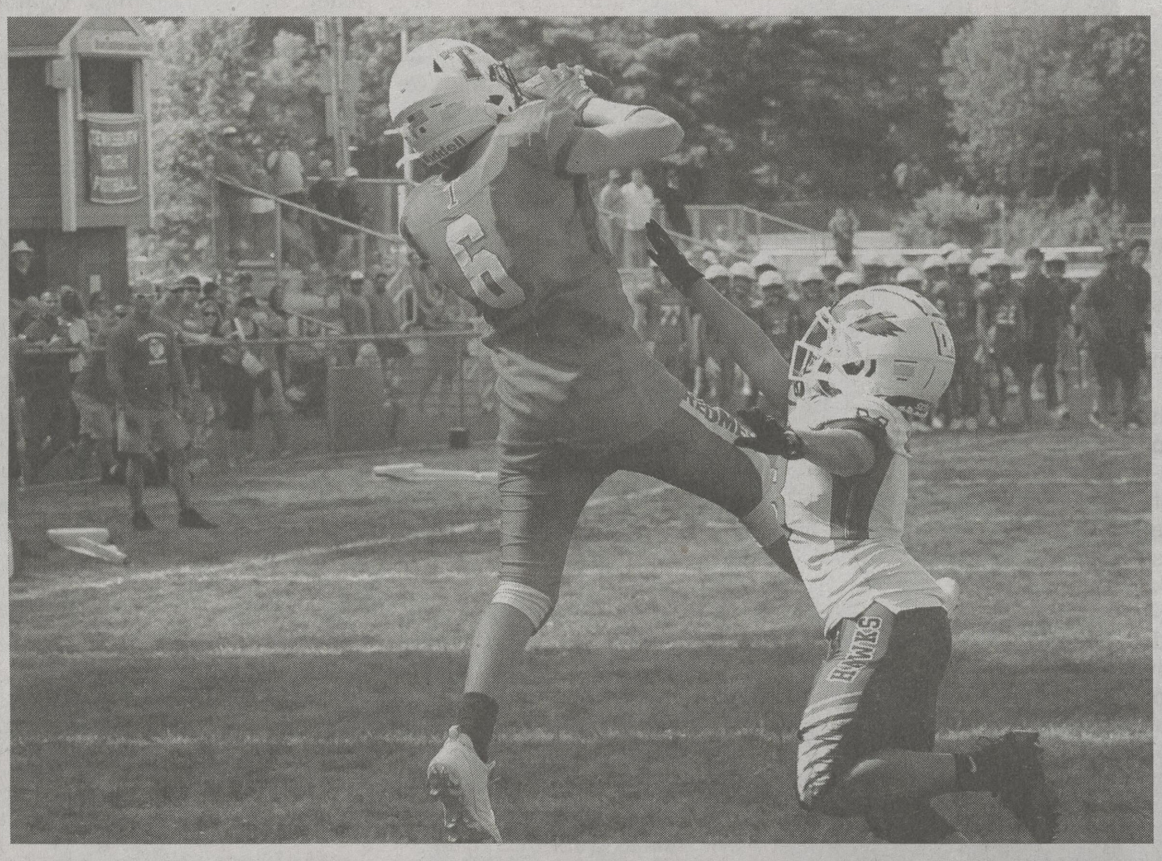
On Tuesday and Wednesday, the WHS boys and girls soccer teams, the field hockey team, the volleyball team and the golf team all got their seasons underway.

Thursday, three Wildcat squads will be in action.

Wilmington's golf team plays on the road against Arlington at 3:30 p.m. and the soccer teams host a doubleheader against Stoneham on Thursday with the girls playing at 5 p.m. and the boys kickoff off at 7 p.m.

On Friday, the 'Cats have home games in field hockey and volleyball both in Wilmington against Stoneham at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, the WHS boys soccer team is back on the field with a road game against Lawrence at 10:30 a.m.



▲ Nate Porter catches this TD over his Milford opponent. (Courtesy photo)

Tewksbury Youth Football:

Redmen roll past Milford in Season Opener

TEWKSBURY — The 13U Tewksbury Redmen football team opened its season in dominant fashion, defeating the Milford Hawks 32-6 at Ballou Del Rossi Field on Sunday afternoon. Behind a powerful ground attack, sharp quarterback play, and a stifling defense, the Redmen set the tone early and never looked back.

Leading the offensive charge was David Shunamon, who exploded for 112 rushing yards on just eight carries, including a touchdown. Austin Martel added 67 total yards and a score, while Ryan Wooley showcased his versatility with 73 yards of offense and a touchdown. Nate Porter and Max Sharkey also found the end zone, helping round out a balanced attack.

Quarterback Sam Kucharski was efficient through the air, completing 10 of 12 passes for 177 yards and three touchdowns, spreading the ball across his

YOUTH | PAGE B7

The Dougout:

I had a ball — and still have it

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Did you see the video of the guy that stole the hat from a little kid at the US Open tennis tournament?

It isn't good.

One of the players signed his own hat and went to hand it to a kid before a grown man literally ripped the hat away from the player and kept it for himself and his family.

The kid that was supposed to get the hat was horrified and his sad face likely helped trigger the overwhelming response.

There are no "two sides to every story" here, it was caught on tape.

The internet blew up.

This guy is now the meanest person on earth.

So... back in June, this happened.

I went to the West Coast to embark on a seven-day, three-stop road trip with the Red Sox to see one game in Seattle, one game in San Francisco and one game in Anaheim.

The Red Sox went 2-1 on the trip, beating Seattle behind Garrett Crochet's brilliance on the mound, taking care of the Giants in the team's first game against Rafael Devers (Devers was 0 for 5), before blowing an early lead against Anaheim and falling with Walker Buehler in a giving mood on the hill.

Before each game, we did a stadium tour of each park.

Seattle was awesome.

San Francisco was amazing.

Anaheim was nice too.

The stadium tours are usually two hours before the games start.

At Anaheim, the tour ended in the outfield part of the ballpark and the tour guide let us sit in the bleachers during batting practice if we wanted.

For those of you that have never experienced batting practice, it's sort of like sitting in a hail storm with hail the size of a fist flying more than 100 miles-per-hour in your direction. You have to be alert and ready to move — and a glove would also help.

No joke, it could be quite dangerous.

Since we knew nothing about the tour's start and finish, I didn't have a glove handy, but plopping down in a seat and watching guys crush homers sounded like fun. Heck, if a ball landed in the stands and I was close, I'd love to snag one — who doesn't want a baseball at a game?

As I sat waiting for a homer in center field, most of the balls were going to left or right field, hardly any to straightaway centerfield. The ones that did go straight fell way short of the seats.

Suddenly, an older guy with a baseball glove came lurking to my right.

Another middle-aged couple was hovering around to my left.

I wasn't going to go running for a batting practice ball, racing against other people, so I was resigned to the fact that a ball would have to literally land in my lap for me to claim it as my own.

Eventually, the park opened to the public and my worst fears were realized when a bunch of little kids invaded the bleachers.

One mom led a group of five or six kids to the area right in front of us.

We were roughly in the seventh row.

The kids, of course, went to the front railing and started screaming at the players whenever a ball was caught.

These weren't normal little kids, they had an arsenal of one-liners to coax the players into throwing them a ball.

I was impressed by the level of guilt/charisma that was being used.

Is there a course on TikTok for this?

I knew, at this moment, that any chances I had to actually get a ball were gonzo. If I caught one, I most certainly had to cough it up to a kid — it's in the baseball rulebook isn't it?

I started to notice the mom was lingering, coaching the kids on what to say and how to say it in order to get a baseball. With most of the balls going to the left or right, there weren't many chances for a ball to be thrown our way.

And then, it happened.

One of the outfielders caught a fly ball and stopped in his tracks at the screaming of the kids. I waved my arm a little too.

I thought I saw him lean back and throw the ball, but didn't pay much attention until I saw one of those "chunks of hail" coming right at me. At the last second, with the baseball coming fast, I reached up to block the ball. It hit my bare hand and landed in my lap.

It actually landed in my lap.

It probably looked hilarious.

The player actually yelled "I'm sorry." I heard him say it, but I didn't see anything as I grabbed my hand in pain. The finger to the right of my middle finger took the brunt of it and was swelling up fast.

I then came to the realization that I actually still had the baseball.

Within seconds, several questions went burning through my mind.

Question 1:

Was the player apologizing for hitting an old guy with a baseball or was he apologizing for overthrowing the kids?

Question 2:

Since I was technically hurt, didn't I sort of deserve the ball?

I already conceded that I'd give it up if I made a clean catch. Doesn't the "injury" change things?

Question 3:

How big are these kids? If they gang rush me, can I take them?

Before I had a chance to process anymore thoughts, an usher appeared with a look of concern on her face to check on me. If getting hurt by a thrown ball during batting practice wasn't humiliating enough, being checked on by an usher was pushing it even deeper.

The intervention did help a bit.

As the usher talked and the ball was still in my lap, the kids were forced to refocus on batting practice and beg for more baseballs. As I asked the usher any question I could think of to prolong the interaction, I started to wonder if the baseball rulebook had a statute of limitations for these incidents.

Is there a five-second rule?

If you haven't been guilted into giving up the ball after a few seconds, don't you get to keep it?

As my chat with the usher continued, I heard the dreaded words from a guy in the section to my right.

"Give it to a kid!"

The mom of the kids, of course, had strategies of her own.

"It's OK!" she yelled to the player, obviously making the decision for me who the player was apologizing to.

She wasn't done.

"It's OK, (name of son that I can't remember), maybe we'll get a chance at another one."

Her passive-aggressive intervention sealed the deal.

I was keeping the damn ball.

As the usher walked away, I tucked the ball into my pocket and pretended it didn't exist.

If I didn't wave it around like I just discovered a pot of gold, maybe the few people around me would think I actually didn't have it after all.

I quickly glanced at the kids, who went back to yelling at the players and didn't know I existed.

After a few minutes, I stared at my swelling hand a few more times (sympathy points) and got up. I bounded up the bleachers to the concourse with the grace and speed of an Olympic hurdler.

I didn't see mom as I departed, but when I got back to solid ground, I was anticipating a linebacker-style tackle from her.

Fortunately, it never happened.

No doubt, those kids probably got 10 balls that day and added to their collection of 1,000 or so. They looked pretty comfortable badgering the players for stuff.

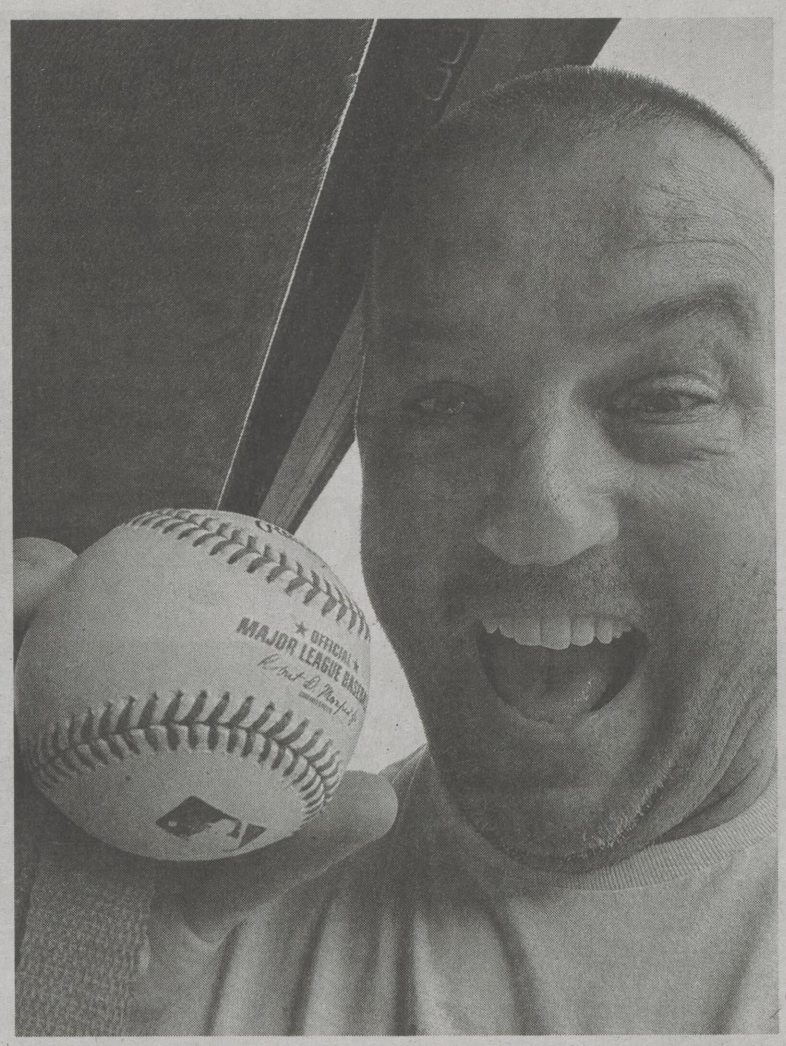
My finger ended up swelling up pretty bad and I had a good bruise for a few days.

When I got home, I checked the baseball rulebook for any entries involving foul balls or batting practice balls. I still check periodically.

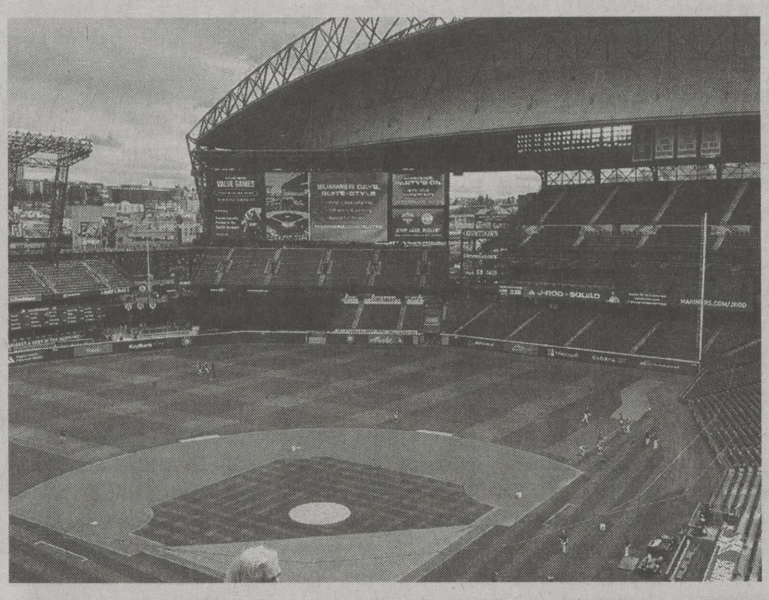
I haven't found anything.

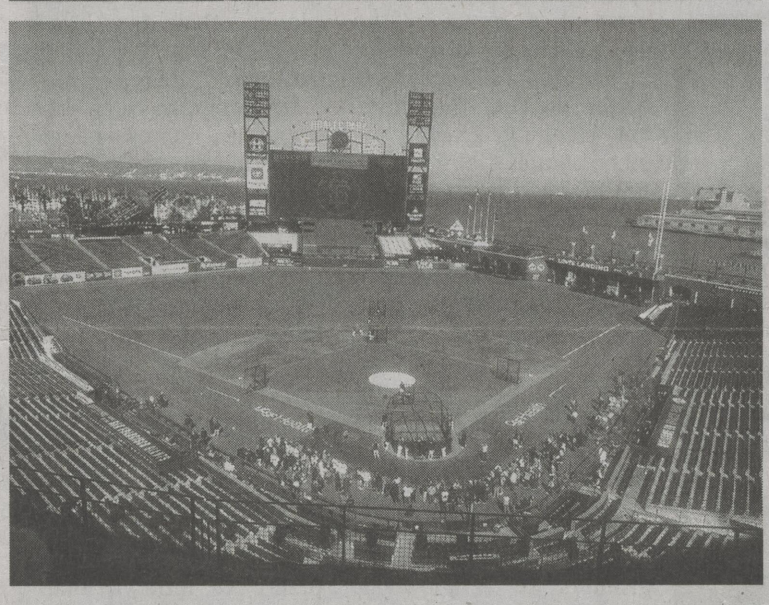
Yet.

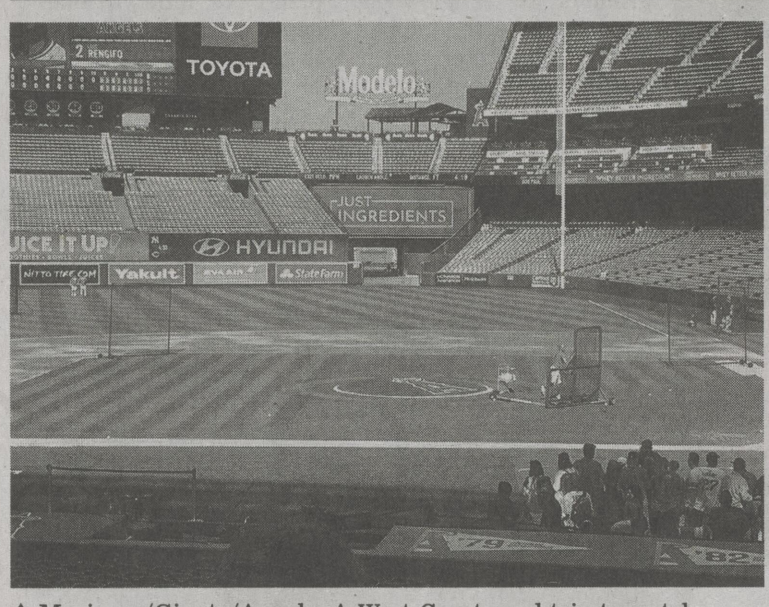
Doug Hastings is the sports editor of the Daily Times Chronicle, the Tewksbury Town Crier and the Wilmington Town Crier. He also has a nice baseball on his mantle at home. He can be reached at dougahastings@gmail.com



▲ Sports editor Doug Hastings got a ball before a game in Anaheim, but stayed calm throughout the process of attaining it. (Courtesy photo)







▲ Mariners/Giants/Angels: A West Coast road trip to watch Red Sox games brought the author to Seattle, Anaheim and San Francisco. (Photos by Doug Hastings)

Tewksbury Youth football cruises to victory

YOUTH FROM PAGE B6

receivers to keep Milford off balance.

Of course, none of this offensive production would have been possible without the Redmen's front line. Bryce Grant, Maksym Dozier, Luke Chambers, Shane Robitaille, and Jack Lund controlled the trenches, opening lanes for runners and giving Kucharski time to operate. Their physical play set the tone from the opening whistle.

On the defensive side, the Redmen were relentless. Austin Martel led the way with 13 tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss, while David Shunamon added 7 stops and 2 tackles for loss of his own. Tommy Bjorkgren, Nate Porter, and Ryan Wooley chipped in multiple tackles each, while Mikey Nogueras, Shane Robitaille, Jaxson Smith, Thomas Souza and Nick Alessi all delivered key plays for the Redmen defensive attack.

With contributions on both sides of the ball, the Redmen looked sharp in all phases, sending a clear message to the rest of the league, the four-time Central Mass Super Bowl Champs are back and look to take back their crown of state champions after their loss to Natick to end last season and ending their three-time state championship run.

▶ David Shunamon pulls away from the Milford defenders as he leads the team in rushing on the day with 112 yards on eight carries. (Courtesy photo)

Lifestyle

Get tangled up (in music) in Tanglewood

Visiting Tanglewood is not just about the music. There are many trails to walk and interactive events, including guided tours and the chance to try out different instruments at the instrument petting zoo. Tanglewood even offers yoga on the lawn on Saturdays. (Paige Impink photo)

◀ The lawn at Tanglewood is a lovely and affordable way to enjoy the music and surroundings. Large screens let the audience see the performance. Here, YoYo Ma plays the cello during a tribute to Mr. Rogers. (Paige Impink photo)

By ROSALYN IMPINK
News Correspondent

What do mountain views, decades of history, and world-class musicians have in common? Well, you'll find them all at Tanglewood in Lenox, Massachusetts, one of New England's most storied outdoor music venues and summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

The Tanglewood Festival originated in Western Massachusetts in 1937, and the institution grew around it over the years, eventually developing into the Tanglewood Music Center, a training ground for professional musicians to hone their craft and preserve classical music from around the world while nurturing contemporary composition.

More than 300,000 visitors attend annually, enjoying concerts by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Pops, and dozens of guest musicians transcending genre, including Yo-Yo Ma, James Taylor and John Legend.

Attending a concert or open rehearsal at Tanglewood is a treat for the senses. Tickets are pricier in the Music Shed, with a better view of the stage, but bringing a chair or picnic blanket and sitting on the lawn is an equally enjoyable sonic experience.

With room for up to 15,000 attendees, the concert is projected to visitors on a big screen, and the quality of sound is unmatched. Arrive early and stake out a shady spot — they go quickly!

If attending a concert, be sure to leave enough time to explore the expansive grounds at Tanglewood. Once home to the Tappan family, the former manor estate was donated to serve as the BSO's permanent summer home; a museum on the property explores the family's history and contributions. Manicured gardens, tall hedges, rolling lawns, and historic buildings make for an elegant communion of nature and society. Volunteers offer guided tours, so be sure to check the schedule before you go.

Four sculptures memorializing some of Tanglewood's greatest artists have been installed across the grounds honoring Serge Koussevitzky, the BSO's first music director; Aaron Copland, a prolific conductor and composer who taught at Tanglewood; Leonard Bernstein, first a Tanglewood student and later composer of beloved works including "West Side Story" and "On the Town"; and most recently, Seiji Ozawa, the BSO's longest serving conductor who passed away last year.

It's easy to imagine these geniuses pacing the Tanglewood lawn, inspired by the beauty of the Berkshires on the horizon, as they planned their next lesson or pieced together a composition.

The program reads as a veritable who's who of classical music greats: BSO conductor Andris Nelsons, Pops conductor Keith Lockhart, and beloved film composer John Williams all serve on the leadership team. Tanglewood's summer concerts are a great way to enjoy not just the perennial favorites of classical music, but to experience world premieres of new works by rising composers.

Tanglewood also offers plenty of family-friendly opportunities for little ones to get up close and personal with the instruments and musicians and engage in fun crafts. Trails and walking paths make exploring the venue a breeze.

Tanglewood is a fun day out for all ages, offering a beautiful location to enjoy world-class music.

Visit *www.bso.org/tanglewood* for more information.

▲ Boston Symphony Orchestra conductor Seiji Ozawa is immortalized by Penelope Jencks in front of Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood. Ozawa was the BSO's longest serving conductor. (Paige Impink photo)

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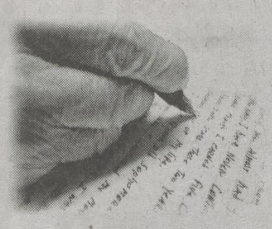

Letters to the editor

Investment in schools an investment in town

Dear Wilmington residents,

This September, our town faces an important decision about the future of our schools and our community. After years of planning and review, we have the opportunity to build a new PreK–5 elementary school at the North Intermediate School site.

I am asking you to join me in voting YES at the Special Town Meeting on Sept. 13 and again at the ballot on Sept. 16.

The truth is, many of our students are learning in buildings that are simply no longer equipped for today's needs. The Woburn Street and North Intermediate schools are over 60 years old. They lack air conditioning, fire sprinklers and accessibility for students with disabilities.

Some students attend class in closets or converted locker rooms. Meanwhile, Wildwood students are bused across town every day because they no longer have a school of their own. These conditions are not just inconvenient, they're inequitable, unsafe, and unfair to our teachers and students.

Approving this project now gives Wilmington access to $62 million in funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Out of 71 communities that applied in the same round, only 15 were accepted. This is a rare opportunity, and if we don't move forward, we risk losing this support. That would mean either restarting the lengthy MSBA process from scratch or asking taxpayers to shoulder the full cost alone, both far more expensive options.

I understand the financial impact this project has on residents, but I also know that investing in our schools is an investment in our community's future. Modern school facilities improve student learning, increase property values and strengthen the town as a whole.

This is about more than bricks and mortar. It's about giving our children safe, accessible classrooms. It's about smart planning that avoids higher costs down the road. And it's about ensuring Wilmington remains a strong, vibrant place for families for generations to come.

Please join me in supporting this once-in-a-generation opportunity. Vote YES at Town Meeting on Sept. 13 and again at the ballot on Sept. 16, for our students, our community, and our future.

Sincerely,
Jake Gearwar

Wilmington Republican Town Committee against proposed new school

Wilmington Republican Town Committee has voted almost unanimously to oppose the construction of the proposed Wildwood School located at the site of the current North Intermediate School. The vote occurred on the evening of Aug. 26, 2025 with only voting members of the committee casting a vote on the measure.

The Wilmington Republican Town Committee urges Republican and or Conservative voters in town to attend the special town meeting on Sept. 13 at the Wilmington High School, and vote in ballot election for the override on Sept. 16 (early voting is ongoing at the town hall) at your voting precinct.

WRTC members are concerned with the continually rising property taxes and extravagant nature of this proposal and their effect on our lower income residents as well as the elderly across town.

Jeff Cohen
Wilmington Republican
Town Committee Chair

Dalton, Broderick named to Dean's List at Western NE

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) is proud to announce that **Thomas Dalton of Wilmington** and **Connor Broderick of Tewksbury** have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2025 semester. Dalton is one of over 550 students to achieve this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the Dean's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.30 or higher.

A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates.

More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries.

Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Vote yes for Wilmington to have schools 'we can all be proud of'

Dear Wilmington,

There is so much conversation about the upcoming school vote, and I sincerely ask that you join me in voting YES on Sept. 13 and 16.

Here's a bit about me to give you a sense of the different perspectives I represent:

I grew up here in Wilmington and my parents are retired seniors here.

My son attends 3rd grade at the Woburn Street School.

I taught in public education for 11 years and now work as a Math/Special Education Consultant.

I worked in business and finance for 11 years prior to entering education.

From all of these perspectives, I am a strong YES. Hopefully I can address some of your questions and concerns, and help us come together with a strong vision for the future of Wilmington.

As someone who grew up here in town and graduated from Wilmington High School back in 1996, I have long hoped Wilmington would build new schools. There is a sense of pride one wants to have in their hometown, and for me, these schools fall short of what I envision for my town. I have long hoped for a return to consolidated elementary schools in a new, modern building and I am very excited this option is finally on the horizon.

As a parent of a child on the North side, I have experienced the school buildings myself, and I don't want any future children to go through what our children have. Wildwood closed a few months before my son was scheduled to start kindergarten, so we waited to hear what would happen. His class was displaced and spread out at multiple locations throughout the town.

At the Woburn Street School they have dealt with leaking roofs that closed classrooms and damaged teachers' supplies. The windows no longer open so even when the weather is lovely outside, the classrooms stay hot and stuffy. If this project moves forward, my son will be at the North for 2 years while the new school is built, and will move on to the middle school just as the new school opens. But even though my child won't attend the new school, I support it so that future children in our community have a better experience.

As a special education consultant, I wonder if people know that we are legally required to offer a free and appropriate education to every child in our community. If we are not able to do so in-house, then parents can file lawsuits and districts are required to pay to send children on IEPs to private schools, which are WAY more expensive than educating them in-district.

The private schools I know of are at least $50,000/year and many are $100,000/year or more per student. Add to that the legal fees of handling these lawsuits, in addition to the transportation expenses we are required to cover, and the costs to the district can be exorbitant.

Our current schools were built in the 1950s and 60s, before the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act was enacted in the 1970s. Prior to that only 1 in 5 students with disabilities attended school, which means our schools were not designed with the spaces needed to educate all our students. I regularly go into schools in many local districts and can tell you that space is limited for special education.

One of my biggest concerns is that we limit our spending on this new school so significantly that we don't build a school large enough that can accommodate our current and future needs. When schools don't have adequate space, teachers end up using storage rooms, closets, and hallways to educate children.

Speaking from experience, my first special education classroom was a storage room which had no windows and no HVAC — and that was at a lovely school built in the 90s. In my later position as a math coach, I shared space with literacy specialists. Between us, special education, and English learner teachers, we were often splitting spaces and pulling children into busy hallways, none of which are optimal for student learning — and that was in a school built in the 2000s.

In order to effectively meet the needs of all students, most districts have specialized programs for children with reading and language difficulties, social-emotional needs, those on the autism spectrum, English learners, and more, just to name a few. All of these services require spaces to offer them. When we can't provide these spaces, we struggle to provide the services that students need. Students then struggle to succeed and the likelihood of expensive outplacements increases.

Some of the No's mention other better options for schools. Curious about the options myself, I investigated and learned the building committee considered 18 different options, with various locations and grade-level configurations. After being presented with costs, pro's and con's for each, they arrived at the decision that building a new preK-5 school at the North was the best option for many reasons.

Personally, I strongly support building one school with the grades combined. From both an educational and a finance perspective, this is the wisest choice. There are significant educational benefits to students, and pursuing one building project rather than multiple is much more cost-efficient for us. Let's also keep in mind there are multiple factors that need to be considered when building a large project like this, and the committee worked hard to choose the best option for Wilmington.

Another one of the biggest arguments I hear from the No side is about the costs and how it affects seniors. My parents Gary and Nancy Molgard are retired seniors in town, and when I asked my dad why he is a Yes vote, his answer was moving: "We have to invest in the next generation. We won't all be here forever."

This statement reflects what I have seen my parents model all along: a commitment to caring for children. My parents were a foster family and welcomed into their home over 30 foster children during my life. They were part of founding Abundant Life Christian School in town and sent all of us children to both private and public schools. I learned from them a high standard of values: that life isn't just about looking out for yourself. It's about how you use your time, energy, and resources to care for others. It's God's love in action, with an incredible amount of trust and faith in God's ability to provide.

After doing a great deal of research about the school project on their own, my parents are both solid Yes votes. To them this is the clear right step to provide a quality education for children in a much more fiscally responsible way than repairing our current schools. My father is a retired engineer and did his own due diligence to evaluate the costs of each option, determining that given the high costs of renovating the current buildings, it is much more sensible and beneficial to build a new school with larger and more modern facilities, for a very similar amount of money.

My mother is a retired educator and shared how much better it is for children and families to have multiple grade levels together in one school, and for students with disabilities to be educated in their home community. My oldest brother has an intellectual disability, and when his educational needs increased as a child, he switched from private to public school here in town in order to receive the special education services he required. When there wasn't an adequate program in the district, however, he had to travel to another local community to attend school, at a cost to Wilmington.

I recognize that an increase in property taxes will present an additional challenge for some, and as a self-employed, homeowning single mother, I, too, will shoulder the added expense. But if the challenge is rising costs, the reality is that costs of living and property values will continue to increase, regardless of whether we build a new school.

This means that not building a new elementary school for children will not solve the problem for seniors. Instead, I support us coming together to support ALL our community members, children, adults, and seniors alike.

The question before us right now is how will we care for our children and the next generation. Let's move forward with a solid YES to build a new school for them. And let's ALSO come together to care for our seniors, and any in our community who are struggling financially. I would much rather see the No campaign put their energy into finding solutions for how we can care for those who are hard-pressed. This is NOT an EITHER/OR — let's support solutions for BOTH our children AND our seniors.

Other questions like how this school will be maintained going forward are things we will need to determine together as a community. If we vote down all expenditures, then we will struggle to maintain any buildings. But it's up to us: What do we want? What is our vision for our community? For our children? Are we willing to work together? Are we willing to prioritize how we use our resources to create a high-quality education system for our next generations?

As we make a decision on this vote, let's consider what our larger goals are. Is our primary strategy to spend as little money as possible, and watch our community deteriorate? I grew up here in Wilmington and I want more for us. My vision and my hope is that we work together to create a more beautiful future for our children and our community.

Public education is one of the most important things we do as a community — we come together and use our resources to take care of the next generation. Our children are our most precious resource and represent our future. I can't think of a better thing to invest in.

For me, I'm clearly a strong YES. I have found Wilmington to be a very caring community, willing to help each other out. I believe we are able to figure this out together, and I look forward to Wilmington having schools that we can all be proud of.

Last but not least, here's the details on the upcoming votes if you need them. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask and I will do my best to answer!

Upcoming Votes:

Saturday, Sept. 13 at 9 a.m. = Town Meeting — Must attend and vote IN-PERSON (no absentee voting). This vote is to approve the school building project and requires a two-thirds majority. There will be a presentation, discussion, and an opportunity to comment and ask questions. May last 1, 2 or more hours. CARES is offering free childcare to anyone who needs it.

Tuesday, Sept. 16 at 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. = Ballot Vote — May vote at local precinct or via absentee ballot. This vote is to approve a debt-exclusion to help fund the costs, which will increase property taxes for 30 years from $11.45/$1,000 to $12.05/$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of $0.60/$1,000. On an average home assessed at $700,000 this will increase taxes by about $400/year or $100/quarterly tax bill.

One thing I have learned in the past few months is that decisions in town are made by who actually shows up to vote. Alone we are each just 1 vote, but together we can be a majority and move our community forward. Let's do this together!

With warm regards,
Rebecca Lord

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– LEGAL NOTICE –
AUCTION INFORMATION
WILMINGTON, MA
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at Public Auction on:
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 • 12:00 PM
at PACK SELF STORAGE
114 WEST STREET
WILMINGTON, MA 01887
The personal property heretofore stored with the undersigned by:
STELLA COURTNEY - WILMINGTON, MA
REBEKKA ABREU - TEWKSBURY, MA
CHRISTOPHER TOROMO - HAVERHILL, MA
Burlington Self Storage reserves the following rights:
(1) To bid at the public auction; (2) To refuse any and all bids;
(3) To cancel the auction at any time for any reason.
8/28&9/4

Greater Lowell launches new comprehensive economic development strategy

LOWELL — The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG), working with municipalities, economic leaders, and community organizations, has released Greater Lowell Stronger Together, a bold five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to guide regional growth. The CEDS not only qualifies municipalities in the region for certain grants, but also provides a workplan to increase municipal capacity to take full advantage of developments such as the Lowell Innovation Network Corridor (LINC) and Lowell's recent Frontrunner City Status.

To create the plan, NMCOG partnered with the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA), and a consultant, Fourth Economy Consulting, to interview nearly 70 business leaders, public officials, and nonprofit experts to understand the region's economic strengths, opportunities, and aspirations. The team also held the first Greater Lowell Economic Summit last March at UKG in Lowell.

The process strengthened the existing collaboration between NMCOG, Middlesex 3, the Greater Lowell MassHire Workforce Board, and other economic leaders in the region. To implement the plan, these economic entities will formalize a partnership agreement to reinforce and expand the organizations' business support, workforce development, and regional marketing programs.

"By working together, we can ensure Greater Lowell is a place where businesses thrive, residents prosper, and communities remain vibrant," said Jennifer Raitt, Executive Director of NM COG. "We already have the collaborative spirit and the expertise; Greater Lowell Stronger Together provides the roadmap."

"The Greater Lowell Stronger Together plan reflects exactly the kind of collaborative, action-oriented strategy our region needs," said Stephanie Cronin, Executive Director of Middlesex 3. "By supporting each community's unique strengths within a regional framework, we can better position our businesses and workforce for long-term success. We're proud to be part of this partnership and look forward to building a more resilient and competitive regional economy together."

"This is an essential roadmap for our region's economic future, and we are proud to be a key partner in its implementation," said Kevin Coughlin, Executive Director of the MassHire Greater Lowell Workforce Board. "Our collaboration strengthens our ability to build and sustain a vital workforce that supports the incoming economic development needs of the Greater Lowell region."

In addition to the partnership agreement, critical next steps were identified in four strategic pillars:

- Creating Economic Development Capacity — Expanding tools, partnerships, and resources to support municipalities of all sizes.
- Developing Strong Places and Towns — Investing in vibrant downtowns, cultural assets, and Main Streets across the region.
- Leveraging Signature Opportunities — Driving growth through transformative projects such as LINC and the Hamilton Canal Innovation District.
- Building Infrastructure to Support Workers and Residents — Addressing critical needs in housing, transportation, utilities, and digital access.

The plan highlights opportunities such as the $3.7 billion projected impact of LINC, the region's industry strengths in life sciences, defense, and advanced manufacturing, and the unprecedented state funding provided through the 2024 Mass Leads Act. At the same time, the plan emphasizes the urgency of tackling barriers such as housing shortages, infrastructure gaps, and uneven municipal capacity. The plan is available at *https://nmcog.org/ceds*

About the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

NMCOG is one of 13 regional planning agencies within Massachusetts. Formed under Chapter 40B of the Massachusetts General Laws, NMCOG serves the municipalities of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Pepperell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, and Westford to support and enhance a wide range of planning objectives related to land use, environmental protection, climate resiliency, economic development, housing, municipal service delivery, and transportation.

NMCOG's professional staff assist member communities in designing, facilitating, and implementing programs and planning initiatives which further the interests of the overall region. NMCOG staff also serve as staff to the Northern Middlesex MPO, to which they provide comprehensive transportation planning services for the region under contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

About Middlesex 3

Middlesex 3 Coalition is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization, founded in 2012 to support and champion economic development in the Route 3 region in Middlesex County. The Coalition receives support from the Mass Office of Business Development (MOBD) and is recognized by the Commonwealth as a Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO).

For more information, visit *https://www.middlesex3.com/*.

About the MassHire Greater Lowell Workforce Board

The MassHire Greater Lowell Workforce Board is one of 16 Workforce Boards throughout Massachusetts, servicing the communities of Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Lowell, Tewksbury, Tyngsboro, Dunstable and Westford. We act as a catalyst to build relationships between employers, job-seekers, training providers, funding resources and general or specifically targeted workforce development programs that promote a skilled and educated workforce, meets the workforce needs of employers, and supports and sustains economic development, business competitiveness, and job creation in Greater Lowell.

We do this through collaboration and alignment with partner resources to create and sustain career pathways ensuring our efforts are demand-driven and designed to meet the changing needs of business.

For more information, visit *https://masshire-greaterlowell.com/about.*

Tewksbury Community Market to feature 30 vendors

TEWKSBURY — The Tewksbury Community Market will host more than 30 vendors on Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Livingston Street Park (288 Livingston St.), behind the Recreation Center.

The Sept. 4 market will feature the following vendors:

FOOD TRUCKS

- Beefie Boys (roast beef sandwiches, chicken sandwiches, chicken fingers, fries)
- Cupcake City (gourmet cupcakes)
- Eggroll Café (eggrolls, bubble teas)
- The Stand (fresh squeezed lemonade)

FOOD VENDORS

- Aaronap Cellars (farm wine)
- Big Rich's Hot Sauce (hot sauces)
- BitzNPeace Farm (fresh vegetables, maple syrup, eggs, plants, flowers)
- Zao Non-Dairy Gelato (gelato)
- Bittersweet Herb Farm (sauces, seasonings, oils, jams, balsamic vinegar)
- Black Sheep Craft Ice Cream (craft ice cream in pints & half pints)
- Demi Doux Soda (low-sugar soda)
- Farmer Palmer (garlic products)
- Fudge 'n Stuff (homemade fudge, popcorn, kettle corn, candied nuts)
- Grep Kafe (hand pies, cupcakes, cookies, nut brittles)
- Pleasant Valley Gardens Farm (fresh vegetables, local fruit, plants)
- Roma's Bakery (bread, pies, pastries, cookies, pizza)
- Seafood Express (fresh & frozen prepared seafood)
- Sophie's Apples (gourmet candy apples)
- Tewksbury Honey (honey & honey related products)
- Tewksbury Public Library's Community Garden (organic vegetables, fruit, flowers)
- Totally Nutz (pecans, almonds, cashews)

ARTISANS & CRAFTERS

- Bracelets By Meliss (bracelets)
- From Sea To You (beach creations using sea glass & shells)
- I'll Have You In Stitches (cross stitch portraits, knit and crochet items)
- Kidz Kouture (hair bows, headbands)
- MikeySoph Creations (tumblers, keychains, bookmarks, Tewksbury items)
- Soak It In Artisan Soap (soap & bath products)
- Stag and Clover (loose leaf teas, tinctures, salves, wellness products)

The Tewksbury Community Market runs from 4 to 7 p.m. every Thursday in June, July, August and September (minus June 19 and July 3). Please note the Market has more than 70 vendors and its lineup changes from week to week.

Visit the Tewksbury Community Market's website at *www.tewksburymarket.com* to learn more. Follow the Tewksbury Community Market's Facebook (*@TewksburyMarket*), Twitter/X (*@TewksburyMarket*), and Instagram (*@TewksburyCommunityMarket*) for additional market updates throughout the season.

Have a question about the market? Contact Community/Economic Development Planner Alex Lowder at 978-640-4370 x 248 or *alowder@tewksbury-ma.gov* and Community Outreach Librarian Robert Hayes at 978-640-4490 x 205 or *rhayes@tewksburypl.org*.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
PLANNING BOARD

PUBLIC HEARING

SPECIAL PERMIT, SITE PLAN REVIEW, SUBDIVISION MODIFICATION

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **September 22, 2025 at 7:00 PM** in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by **CID 2025 Acquisitions, LLC** for a Site Plan Review pursuant to Section 3.6 and Special Permit under Section 3.5 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, as well as a Modification to the Subdivision to subdivide the existing parcels which includes an industrial building thereon and re-align the right of way and corresponding lots to the existing roadway serving the building, as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 832 & 836 North Street, Assessor's Map 52, Lots 41 & 1, zoned Office Research.

The application may be examined on the Planning Board webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Stephen Johnson, Chairman
250918 9/4,11/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI25P4467EA

Estate of:
Warren E. Woolhiser
Also known as:
Warren Woolhiser
Date of Death: 04/04/2025

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Edward P. Jean of Pelham NH** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Edward P. Jean of Pelham NH** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/23/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 26, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
250912 9/4/25

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:
www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Saturday, September 13, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Wilmington High School
Lawrence H. Cushing, Sr. Gymnasium
159 Church Street

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION

Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Polls Open
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

250819 8/28, 9/425

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF HEALTH

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Health will hold a public hearing on **September 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM** at Town Hall 1009 Main Street, First Floor Main Hall Meeting Room Tewksbury, MA requested by Rone D Pereira. 15 Compass Lane, Tewksbury, MA for an animal permit as found in section 5.3 of the Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Animals. The hearing will also be available for viewing on the following cable public access channels: Verizon Channel 33 and Comcast Channel 99.

At that time, all interested parties will be heard. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Tewksbury Health Department.

Legal notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Raymond Barry, BOH Chairman
250903 9/4/25

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SENIOR LIFESTYLES
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WELLNESS & HEALTH
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Dalton named to President's List at Western NE Univ.

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) is proud to announce that **Jonathan Dalton of Wilmington** has been named to the President's List for the spring 2025 semester. is one of over 400 students to achieve this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates.

More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries.

Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Attorney general's office expresses issue with town's proposed bylaw edits for ADUs

PLANNING FROM PAGE 1

shared that the attorney general's office took an issue with the town's proposed bylaw edits for accessory dwelling units, specifically where it said accessory dwelling unit must meet "all" listed requirements under the dimensional chart.

She described several options that the board had in this regard: remove the word "all" and finalize the language, bring the small edit back to Town Meeting next year, and leave the language as it is. The edit would allow more clarity for applicants to make it clear that the board can't deny an accessory dwelling unit based on lot size alone.

Battaglia also suggested that they could add a statement saying that extensions of existing nonconformities are permitted with an accessory dwelling unit.

Deanna Craig proposed that they cross-reference the nonconformity language elsewhere in the bylaw instead of adding more language in this section.

Gingrich concluded that she could gather options and get advice from town counsel to be brought back to the board in the future.

Next, Gingrich shared options and things to consider as they prepare a bylaw edit that would allow a brewery use in town. She provided that there seemed to be interest in this use. They used an example bylaw as a starting point to create proposed language for the board that night.

Craig wondered if the drafted language may be too restrictive, as it stated that a brewery could only sell the product sold under the brewery name, but she thought they might want to sell a different product such as cider or wine not under their brewery name.

Gingrich proposed that they could allow other sellers' products if there was production and serving by the brewery in the same spot, or if the production and brewery are in different locations then they can only serve their own products. However, there was a desire not to draft language through this use that would allow bars.

They seemed to want to allow a taproom and production space be separate if desired, or have just a taproom or just a production room.

Gingrich added that the Economic Development Committee was making recommendations to the Select Board for amendments to the alcohol license rules and regulations.

She mentioned that the Economic Development Committee wanted to see this use be permitted in highway industrial, general industrial and general business; however, she suggested only highway industrial for now. She told the board how she explained to the EDC that a lot of change may be overwhelming for residents.

They agreed to do research about potential uses and if there is a need to allow breweries to sell other companies' products and circle back.

Lastly, Gingrich asked for the board's opinion on the sign bylaw. She first described the wall sign bylaw which allows 1.5 times the length of the front wall, with a maximum of 120 square feet. They considered defining the front wall or setting certain size limits instead, but they agreed to keep the calculation.

Regarding specifying where the sign should go, the board agreed that they should specify that a business can't place its sign on another business' wall, and that the sign should go on the wall used to calculate the allotted size.

They also discussed electronic signs, which are mainly prohibited by the current bylaw, agreeing that the current language seems to suffice.

Finally, about wayfinding signs, they were open to allowing larger directional signs when there may be multiple businesses on a property.

The board will meet next on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m.

Lowell Irish Festival returns on Saturday, Sept. 13

LOWELL — The Lowell Irish Festival is proudly presented by Guinness and will take place on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. Gates open at 11:30 a.m., with live entertainment, food, drinks, and family fun continuing throughout the day until 7:30 p.m. Thanks to Guinness's ongoing support, admission to this year's festival is free for all ages.

The Lowell Irish Festival has grown into one of the region's most anticipated cultural celebrations, bringing together the very best in Irish music, food and community members. With children's activities and family-friendly programming spread throughout both the indoor and outdoor areas of the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, the festival promises a full day of fun, flavor, and discovery for all ages.

This year's festival will be headlined by Joshua Tree, returning to the Irish Festival stage for another unforgettable performance. They will be joined by an exciting lineup of both national and local talent, including The Belfast Cowboys, Irish Whispa, Rebel Collective, Dave Try, Eamonn Sheehan, Shelagh O'Brien, Tony Gahan, and the Ladd Trio.

In addition to the music, festivalgoers can enjoy Guinness-inspired food, perfectly poured Guinness, craft vendors, and family entertainment. There will also be the return of the popular Lowell Perfect Pint Competition, which will bring local bartenders into the spotlight as they compete for bragging rights.

"We are excited to welcome Guinness back as our presenting sponsor of the annual Lowell Irish Festival," said Pete Lally, CEO of Spectacle Live. "Guinness's iconic brand and world-class stout are recognized around the globe, and their support allows us to create an authentic, free, family-friendly event celebrating Irish food, music, and culture in the heart of Lowell. We are truly grateful for their partnership."

Guinness Brewery Ambassador Mike Reardon said, "Guinness is proud to be a presenting sponsor of the Lowell Irish Festival. Guinness has been participating in celebrations of Irish Culture and Heritage for over 265 years. Guinness was founded in Dublin, Ireland, in 1759 and first arrived in the USA in 1817, nearly a decade before Lowell was incorporated. Guinness quickly became a renowned beer that won the world over, and we welcome people of all cultures to join us in raising a pint in celebration. We are honored to be a part of such a wonderful event and community. Slainte!"

With support from the presenting sponsor, Guinness, the Lowell Irish Festival will be held on Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and is free for all attendees.

More information is available at *www.lowellirishfestival.com* or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

LOWELL MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM

The Lowell Memorial Auditorium is located in downtown Lowell, Massachusetts, at 50 East Merrimack St. The 2,800-seat venue was constructed in 1922 and hosts family shows, conferences, conventions, trade shows, corporate seminars, and much more. The Lowell Memorial Auditorium is an indoor venue that is managed by Lowell Management Group. *www.lowellauditorium.com*

SPECTACLE LIVE

Founded in 2012, Spectacle Live offers venue operations, booking, programming, marketing, and production services across New England from offices in Lexington, MA, Lowell, MA, and Laconia, NH. The company partners with over a dozen venues to manage facilities and promote a variety of events, including concerts, comedy, theater, and family entertainment. For more information, contact Pete Lally, at *plally@spectaclelive.com* or 617-531-1257. *www.spectaclelive.com*

Cub Scout Pack 136 and Troop 136 Open House

WILMINGTON — Cub Scout Pack 136 and Troop 136 are having an open house on Thursday, Sept 4 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Wilmington Mason Hall (Friendship Lodge) 32 Church St., Wilmington.

There will be representees from both the Pack and Troop present and will give information about the Pack and Troop program for the 2025-36 season.

There will be hamburgers and hot dogs and drinks so come hungry! If you cannot make the event but have questions, please call: Frank West 978-658-1754 or email *Troop136wilm@aol.com*.

Cub Scout Pack 136 meets on Thursdays at the Mason Hall from 6 - 7 p.m. on Thursdays and Scouts meet from 7:15 - 8:30 p.m.

Feel free to come and check out what Cub Scouting is all about!!!

INDEPENDENT WRITING POSITION

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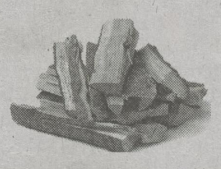

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Richard 508-368-0739
Voice Mail 339-927-5029

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Governor visits Dewing School in Tewksbury

LITERACY FROM PAGE 1

fore they interfere with students' learning."

"Literacy unlocks every other dimension of learning, and every child in Massachusetts deserves the chance to become a confident reader and learner," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "By investing in evidence-based tutoring and high-quality instruction, we are ensuring that our youngest students — especially those who need the most support — are set up for success in school and in life. I'm proud that the Senate has made this a priority in the state's budget, and I applaud the Healey-Driscoll Administration for making this program a priority and distributing these dollars expeditiously."

"High-dosage tutoring recognizes the importance of reading in early education. Good literacy skills are essential to a strong education, and an educated public is essential to a healthy democracy," said Town of Tewksbury Town Manager John C. Curran.

"We are excited about this high-dosage early literacy tutoring opportunity and recognize its potential to significantly impact our students' foundational reading skills," said Tewksbury Superintendent Brenda Theriault-Regan. "Our district is prepared to move quickly on the DESE-sponsored program once funding becomes available. This aligns perfectly with our commitment to ensuring all students achieve reading proficiency."

Offered through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the high dosage tutoring initiative provides participating schools and districts with tutors at no cost to the school or student. The tutoring offers flexible models — including in-person and virtual formats — designed to meet local needs during and after the school day. DESE has selected qualified tutoring providers to partner with schools and work with students across the state. First graders are prioritized as this is a crucial year to solidify early reading skills.

Statements of Support

State Senator Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Education:

"High-dosage tutoring is one of many proven tools we are implementing in Massachusetts, along with tremendous investments in early education and childcare, to ensure our young students learn to read which will help them to succeed. Thank you to the Healey administration for bringing free, high-dosage early literacy tutoring to 272 schools this year to support our children from the start and set them up for future success down the line."

State Representative Kenneth Gordon (D-Bedford), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Education:

"We're proud to support access to high dosage early literacy tutoring. This program gives all of our learners the head start they need to unlock the keys to reading and open the doors to the opportunity of education. We're glad to do our part."

State Senator Barry Finegold (D-Andover):

"Intensive literacy tutoring has a proven track record of success, and this investment will set young learners on a lifelong path to literacy. Strong literacy skills are foundational for future job readiness and economic opportunity, making this initiative a critical step in preparing students for the workforce."

State Representative Tram Nguyen (D-Andover):

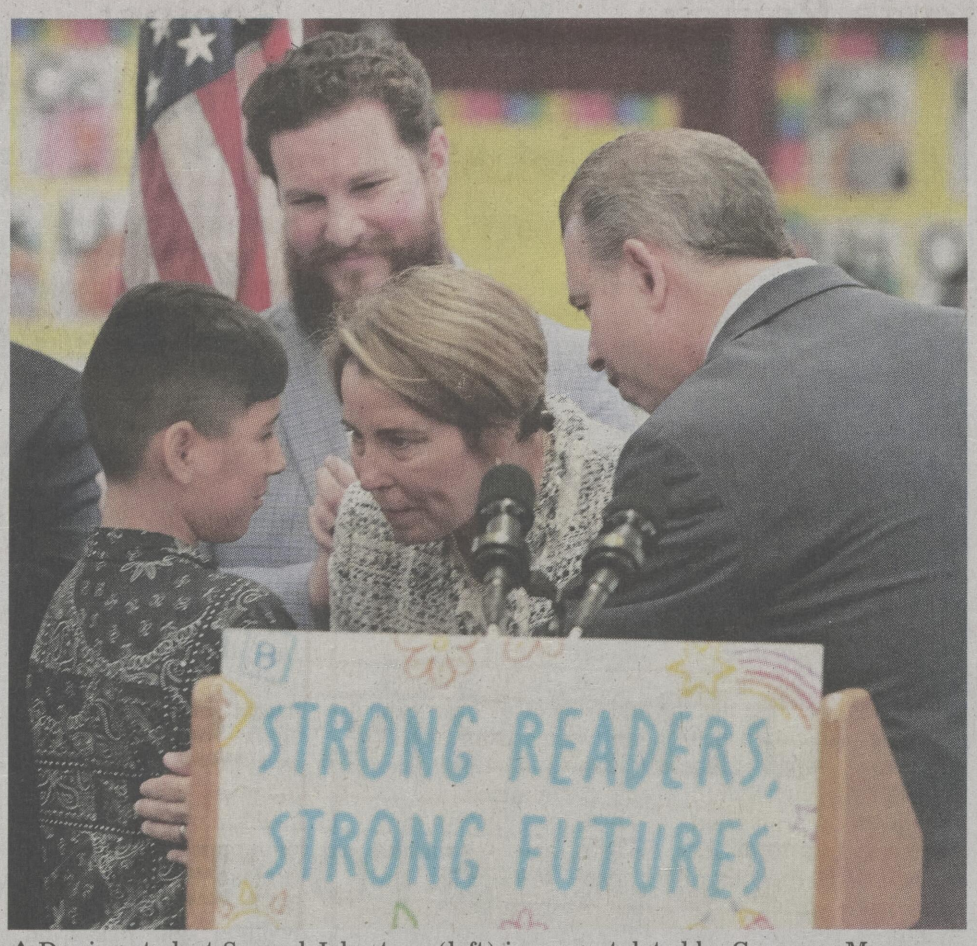
"I'm proud to see this statewide investment in early literacy take root in our schools right here in the district and across the Commonwealth. When we give every child the tools to become strong readers, we're not only opening doors for their future success, we're also building stronger, more equitable communities for years to come."

State Representative Vanna Howard (D-Lowell):

"Investing in high-dosage early literacy tutoring is essential for equipping students with the foundational skills needed for success, ensuring they meet the critical third grade reading benchmark. Sincere appreciation to my House and Senate colleagues, and the Healey-Driscoll Administration for the collaborative effort prioritizing early literacy."

State Representative David Robertson (D-Tewksbury):

"Encouraging students through tutoring and support to become proficient readers empowers them to be successful students and lifelong learners. I greatly appreciate the Governor and her administration for prioritizing early literacy programs throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts."



▲ Dewing student Samuel Johnstone (left) is congratulated by Governor Maura Healy and Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Pedro Martinez after Johnstone read a statement on behalf of the school. (Joe Brown photos)

▲ Members of Tewksbury's local delegation listen to Governor Maura Healy: (far right) State Senator Barry Finegold, State Rep. Tram Nguyen (18th Essex), State Rep. David Robertson, Tewksbury Town Manager John Curran, and (hidden) Tewksbury Select Board member James Mackey.

▶ The children asked many questions from the visiting dignitaries (l-r) Mass Sec of Ed Dr Patrick Tutwiler, Mass CSR of Elementary and Secondary School Education Pedro Martinez and Governor Maura Healy at the Dewing School in Tewksbury.

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